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Weekend



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36-page sunclement

JINDEPENDEN

Should ours be the only children in the world to eat British beef?

CHARLES ARTHUR Science Correspondent

The 13 scientists on the independent expert advisory committee on BSE and CID meet today at 11am to ponder one of the most argent questions ever to face the nation: is it safe for our children to eat beef?

Nobody knows for certain if we are on the brink of an epidemic of CJD that could kill 500,000 people, or a containable problem that might claim a few score lives a year.

The one devastating fact we do know about mad cow disease is that the top scientists in the field have reversed their po-sition about its link with human

With British beef now banned world-wide, and the safe, why does the Govern-Consumers Association advisment keep tightening its meaing against eating it, we wait for the committee to advise ministers on two crucial issues. Should parents ban their children from eating beef? And why might it be safe for adults to eat it but not children? ...

Yesterday Professor John Pattison, chairman of the committee, caused further confusion by saving he would not feed beef to his three-month-old grandson who had never eaten meat, but he would continue to give danger of an epidemic is over? the Independent yesterday, "In dered the culling of all the cat-

it to his nine-month-old grand-

daughter.
There are six further key questions about BSE and its risks that have not been answered - and never posed in public by ministers or their advisors. If they are not on Professor Pattison's agenda this morning, they should be.

1) Is a single bite of a BSEinfected meal enough to pass on the disease, or does it require repeated exposure over a longer 2) Are calf and beef liver and

kidney - which are not re-

moved from carcasses - absolutely safe to eat?

3) Why should beef be dangerous now, given the safety measures that have been taken in the past six years? But if it is

4) As experiments have shown that BSE can be passed to pigs, are vets and farmers being told to monitor pigs on farms for any signs of the

ment keep tightening its mea-

5) Can the disease be passed to chickens? If not, why did SEAC this week ban the use of all mammalian meat for feed for all farm animals?

- 6) When will we know if the

BSE shockwaves reverberate around the world

The Consumers' Association yesterday told British shoppers to avoid eating beef

The British beef trade, worth £4bn a year with an export trade of £520m, suffered a huge blow when South Africa, Singapore and most of the European Union countries announced plans to ban British beef. France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Portugal, Finland, Greece, Cyprus, Holland and Sweden were already refusing to buy British beef yesterday, leading to City speculation that the collapse in the beef trade could lead to dire consequences for the British econ-

Shops and supermarkets were also quick to respond to the crisis about the apparent link between BSE and CJD. Somerfield supermarkets, a 625-store chain, said it

Reports, pages 2,3; Leading article and letters, page 18

took in the 1980s.

When BSE was first identified in 1986, a committee led by Professor Sir Richard Southwood was set up to consider the risks posed by the disease and what measures should be taken to stop it. Professor Southwood told

There are questions, too, defence of our committee, we about the actions - or lack of met on 20 June 1988 and I wrote the regulations that were them - that the Government the next day that certain steps brought in to stop cattle remains the next day that certain steps should be carried out right away. But we did say that it would be a decade or so before we saw anything that would tell us whether the disease had passed to humans. We were wrong in thinking it wouldn't get across the species boundary. But what should we have done? Or-

tle in Britain? The fact is that brought in to stop cattle remains being fed back to cattle would have been effective. But some farmers, as we now know, held. on to their old, contaminated feeds for at least a year. It's not just us. Society as a whole has to take responsibility for this. But of course, hindsight is a

was refunding any customers who returned

beef products. The Co-Op, for the first time

in its 150-year history, said that it was con-

Insurance companies, such as Pegasus As-

surance and Skandia Life, said that they

Schools around Britain continued to strike

beef off dinner menus. Lancashire Coun-

ty Council took beef from all secondary

school menus. The council had banned it

from primary schools three months ago.

In Broadmoor prison, beef was also tak-

the British BSE crisis yesterday was Ireland's

Prime Minister, John Bruton, who predict-

ed a massive increase in the sales of Irish

The only person not overly alarmed by

sidering using beef from abroad.

intended to include cover for CJD.

en off the menu.

wonderful thing.

have taken urgent action at that time which could have eased the problems we are now experiencing. Experts in the

field point to two key questions:

1) Why did the Government not begin a crash programme to develop a test which would diagnose BSE in live cattle before they showed symptoms of the

2) Why was an experiment not begun immediately to see whether BSE could be passed orally to primates such as chimpanzees - an experiment which would have told us the level of

risk we would now be facing? Dr Anne Maddocks, a member of the independent pressure group the Spongiform Encephalopathy Research Committee, says that the second question is now moot: "There's no point doing the primate ex-periment now," she said yesterday. "It's us. We are the

The meeting of the 13 scientists, at the Civil Service College, in Sunningdale. Berkshire, is expected to go on today and tomorrow.

Members who have spoken to the *Independent* are almost fearful of the responsibility before them. "I almost just want to crawl into a hole," one said Yet the Government could this week. I look at the paper

and think, My God, we've killed off a £500m export industry. You can't imagine what it's like. But we have to make these decisions, and we will." Another said "The Government is in very deep water over this and they are only too glad to pass the responsibility for making decisions over to us. And then they simultaneously want the answer, and only the right

answer. It is understandable that the Government does not want to scaremonger.

But equally it owes us an explanation after protecting the interests of the meat industry for so long. First, it must lay bare everything it knows - particularly evaluations of all the risks posed by eating beef and its products. Not just those we face now but those it kept to itself in the past.

Secondly, it must divest itself of its overly cosy relationship with the meat industry. Anyone who thinks that this relationship is valuable and should be retained should ask the question: who changed the regulations in slaughterhouses which meant that the remains of BSE-infected cattle could be fed back to cows, thus prolonging the agony we all now

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WEEKEND

The making of the modern girl Part one of a four-part series on the Nineties woman

MAGAZIME

Men's fashion

Tears as pupils return to school

Some ran and skipped through the main gates, some greeted friends, but there were others who kept close to their anxious parents. It was no ordinary day, for the children of Dunblane as they returned yesterday to their primary school for the first time since the massacre nine days ago which left 16 children, their teacher and their killer

Many parents paused at the school gates to hug their chil-dren and speak some private words of encouragement. As they left, some of the adults had tears in their eyes when they-emerged from the school after-taking in their children. Educational psychologists and counsellors were on hand

to support the 700 children on their first faltering steps to normality. School began as usual at 9am but it was for half a day only, with no assembly, no playtime breaks, and ending at noon. The gym where the massacre happened was sealed and its windows boarded up

As the children began to gather inside the building one of their injured classmates, Matthew Birnie, aged 5, was allowed home from hospital. And the Archbishop of Canterbury Dr George Carey speaking in London warned there were limits to forgiveness as he accused the Dunblane killer, Thomas Hamilton, of committing a "heinous" crime. Dr Carey spoke of the Bible's "severe judgement" on child-killers. At the school gates, Ron

you can imagine, this has been a long dark week full of tears...
However, the cvil that came last We have really one priority now - to ensure our school becomes a happy place of learn-

Taylor, the headteacher, re-

flected on the first day back: "As

After Dunblane: Children take first step back to normality as Howard backs crackdown on sex offenders



Take care: A mother kisses her daughter at the gate of Dunblane primary school as pupils return to their classes for the first time since last week's tragedy

Police plan register of paedophiles

JASON BENNETTO Crime Correspondent

Convicted paedophiles are to be listed on a national register and will be forced to inform the police when they move home. under proposals being considered by the Government.

are expected to include a ban on paedophiles working with youngsters as part of a clampdown on sex offenders.

They will be outlined in a forthcoming consultation paper and could be included in a

Crime Bill in the autumn. Mr Howard is known to be in favour of tougher restrictions on The police have been urging

the Government to set up a new system to monitor abusers more closely after a series of cases involving convicted paedophiles who had changed address and secretly started molesting youngsters. They have also been given council houses next to schools and found employment working with children. The police argue that if they were kept informed of the whereabouts of sex offenders they

could prevent many offences. A national register would probably be controlled by the police and held on a central computer, but local authorities would be allowed supervised access. At present the National Criminal Intelligence Service holds a list of about 4,500 convicted or suspected paedophiles in Britain.In 1994 there were 274 people convicted or cautioned for gross indecency with a child, although this does not include child rape. In the same prolific in their of year 109 people were found guilty of unlawful sex with a girl most abhorrent.

The proposals are expected to include the introduction of two new sentences which would force convicted child moles-ters to tell the police if they changed address - a "residenthem working with children - a The proposed measures, an-nounced yesterday by Michael "child protection order". If of-fenders broke the orders they Howard, the Home Secretary, could be jailed.
Mr Howard, addressing the

National Probation Conference in Coventry, yesterday said: The Government believe there is a strong case for strengthening the arrangements for supervising convicted sex offenders following their release from custody. Protecting the public is the aim which underpins the Government's entire

criminal justice policy."

The police argue that the changes could help to prevent murders of children such Rosie Palmer, aged three, in Hartlepool, Cleveland, who was killed in July 1994 by a man living a few doors away, who had been involved in previous incidents of child molestation which were not reported. Detectives believe this information would have helped the police identify the man more quickly as a suspect.

Chief Superintendent Brian MacKenzie, President of the Police Superintendents' Association, said: "These changes may infringe some civil liberties, but we believe the rights of children should come before convicted paedophiles."

Mary Honeyball, general secretary of the Association of Chief Officers of Probation. added: "A register could give some added protection given that sex offenders are extremely prolific in their offending and the impact on their victims is the

WEATHER

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Claure Chapman Head Girl.
ILPH Rest & Rehabilitation Centre, Norfolk.

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The BSE risk: Families are advised to change their eating habits as countries across the world reject British produce

Watchdog says: Don't eat beef products

JAMES CUSICK

The public were yesterday urged to stop eating beef by the highly-respected watchdog organisation the Consumer Association. The group, amid yesterday's global warnings against British beef, said it had "no choice" but to issue the warning to avoid any risk to the public from cathching the human form of mad cow disease.

As sales of poultry, pork and fish soared, the association said: "There is a currently an unquantifiable risk in eating beef." It urged that the Government should make more information available to the public "as a matter of extreme urgency".

Following the warning, the Meat and Livestock Commission, the beef's industry representative group, admitted for the first time that cows infected with BSE could have entered the food chain. In its first published assessment of the risk to humans, the MLC said the risk of exposure to infected food was "one in 1.2m". But it said on that basis that between 1986 and 1989 fewer than 50 people might have been exposed to in-

fected food.

Although the impact of the World Health Organisation's plans for an unprecendented emergency meeting will have serious impact on Britain's global trade, the announcement at home by the Co-op that it is considering buying beef from abroad for the first time in its 150-year history created further

panic among retailers.

The Co-op, which has 3,000 stores, said it will be looking for alternatives. "There is an opportunity to import beef from abroad from Australia. New Zealand and South America," said the company. The firm said the Government had failed to

IN THE STORES

give firm guidelines with respect to the consumption of beef. Tesco said that its beef was sourced from 18 different suppliers, 11 from the UK and the remainder from the Irish Republic. Country of origin was clearly market on all its products.

No decision had yet been taken to buy beef from elsewhere Sainsbury's said that all of the beef in its stores came from the UK and the Irish Republic but "all of our buying policies are under review". The Irish Prime Minister John Bruton said people were moving over to Irish beef following the new BSE health scare in Britain.

Throughout yesterday cattle sales again plummeted at markets throughout the country. Auctioneers at Ruthin, North Wales, described prices as "disastrous", with only 34 beasts offered for sale compared with about 200 on an average day.

At Derby and Ross-on-Wyc, prices fell by up to £140 per animal. Carlisle, the biggest market in the country, saw prices £90 down on last year.

A Lincolnshire slaughter-house is to be the first in Britain

to be prosecuted under anti-BSE regulations designed to prevent infected bovine offal getting into the food chain. The prosecution follows the alleged discovery of unmarked bovine offal at a processing

plant producing animal feed.

A horse slaughterer, Neil Richard Pawson, trading as H Pawson and Son at Station Road. Donington on Bain, Lincolnshire, is to stand trial at Louth magistrates' court on 13 May. He faces charges related to the non-staining of specified bowine offal removed from cattle carcasses.



From Austria to New Zealand the world bans British meat

KATHERINE BUILER

The world turned its back on British beef yesterday as countries from Austria to New Zealand announced a ban on importing beef from Britain. South Africa, Singapore and New Zealand suspended imports, following the lead of most of the EU countries.

The prospect of a Brusselsimposed ban looked more likely last night after the European Commission endorsed the decision of 10 EU member-states to close their borders to meat and live-cattle exports from Britain. Germany, Italy and Austria joined France, Belgium, Portugal, Finland, Greece, Sweden and the Netherlands in unilateral bans. Brushing aside claims that it was illegal to ban trade with Britain, the Commission said governments could invoke the EU treaty to keep out disease. "Member-states have the legal right to take safeguard action either on human animal or even plant health grounds if they feel there is a threat" said a

spokesman. Suspension of trade

a decision on what joint EU measures should follow.

Banning British beef was furthermore "completely understandable" in light of Britain's admission that 10 victims of CJD may have contracted the fatal brain condition through

eating beef.

"This goes beyond a question of what you can or can't do in legal terms. Clearly we are confronted with a serious publichealth problem," the spokesman added.

The Commission will only de-

cide what action must be taken to allay public concerns after it receives the advice of veterinary officers representing the 15 member-states scheduled to meet in Brussels on Monday. But independent scientific advisers to the Commission who gathered yesterday to review the

latest evidence were expected to

endorse the British findings

pointing to a probable link between beef and CJD.

It was not clear last night to
what extent an EU ban on
British beef exports would affect meat on sale in British supermarkets or butcher shops.
Butchering slaughterhouse regulations or other EU curbs alurady in place to minimise the

butchering, staughterhouse regulations or other EU curbs already in place to minimise the BSE risk clearly apply in Britain as well as elsewhere. It is unlikely, however, that the Commission could either legally or politically direct Britain to withdraw beef from British shops on public-health or consumer-protection grounds. Commission officials were also reluctant to be drawn on whether Brussels would order Britain to destroy its entire herd. The Commission, which manages agricultural policy for the 15 states; has in the past operated an EU-funded slaughter policy to contain outbreaks of classical swine fever in Germany.

and Betgum.

But there are neither funds available to finance the destruction of 11 million cattle in Britain nor a clear opinion that it would be the best option.

One source suggested the

One source suggested the Commission would want much more than circumstantial evidence of a link between BSE and CJD before ordering a slaughter-out policy.

With the EU facing an unprecedented crisis on the overall beef market, the focus was turning yesterday to how to deal with a glut of unwanted meatand the prospect of prices in free-fall

Top scientists who advise the government

CHARLES ARTHUR

The members of the Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee (SEAC) start meeting today to decide on advice to parents on whether children should eat beef.

It comprises:
Professor John Pattison, chairman: professor of medical microbiology and Dean of University Collège, London Medical School. Appointed to the committee last February, and to the chairmanship late last year on the retirement of David Tyrrell, head of the now-defunct Common Cold Unit. With 30 years experience in the field of clinical pathology, Pattison is widely respected in his field. Dr Rob Will, vice-chairman: consultant neurologist and head of the National CID Surveillance Unit in Edinburgh. His team first noticed the unusual cases of the disease which led

cases of the disease which led to last week's bombshell announcement.

Professor John Collinge, head of the Prion Diseases Group at St Mary's College Hospital, London, A clinical neurologist whose research group is active in research into BSE and other

ing transgenic mice. Paper published in the scientific journal Nature in late December 1995 suggested that BSE could not cause CID, based on preliminary results with genetically-engineered mice with haman genes. The experiments are continuing.

Professor Ingrid Allen; professor of Neuropathology; Queen's University of Belfast.

Has wide experience in disposof the central nervous states particularly multiple science. Professor Fred Brown to merty deputy director Se

entific) of the now defunding limit virus Research Inside and now visiting scientists. US Department of Agriculture's Plum Island Animal case Centire in New York Dr William Hueston, veteral epidemiologist, US Department of Agriculture. Dr Richard Kimberlin, pendent consultant on state

or Richard Kimberlin or pendent consultant on season clated diseases. Has spend past eight years on risk as ment of the dangers posses BSE to humans.

surgeon.

Dr William Watson, former director of the Central Veterihary
Laboratory.

Professor Jeffrey Almond, 2

virologist and professor of microbiology at the University of Reading. His own laboratory has been engaged in BSE research for the past five years. Joined SEAC December 1995. Ray. Bradley, a veterinary pathologist and chairman of the BSE sub-group of the EC's scientific veterinary committee. Regarded as a world expert on the disease. Joined SEAC in December 1995.

Dr Mike Painter, a consultant in Communicable Disease Control, City of Manchester. Joined SEAC in December 1995. Professor Peter Smith, an epidemiologist from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Joined SEAC in Jan-

Babies stay on beef

confusion.

Professor John Pattison, head of SEAC, the independent advisory committee on mad cow disease, said yesterday that he would not give beef to his three-month old grandson who had never eaten meat, but his nine-month-old granddaughter would continue ealing beef, writes Chris Blackhurst.

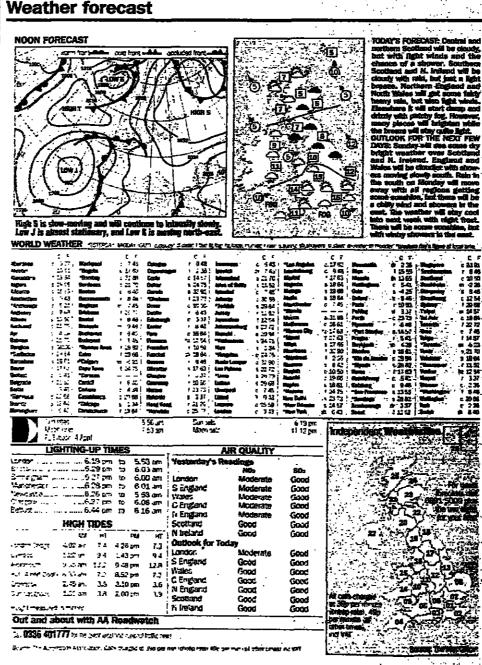
Speaking on Radio 4's Farming Today programme, Professor Pattison said he had a grandson, aged 3 months, who has yet to eat beet.

"My daughter and son-in-law are simply going to wait another six or 12 months to see what happens before introducing birn to best "he said

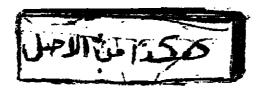
As for his granddaughter, "Our son and daughter-in-law have actually given our granddaughter some beef. They actually prepare the babies' meals from the same material that they use for their own meals."

The professor was criticised by Labour for spreading further









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Economy feels the strain



Cash cow: The crisis in the beef industry could severely limit the Government's ability to deliver tax cuts

DIANE COYLE **Economics Editor**

The beef crisis could be bad for our wallets as well as our health. if the worst fears about the need to slaughter cattle are borne out. It has already hit the pound, which fell by half a plennig against the German mark yes-

City of London experts most extreme scenario, gov-ernment borrowing would be billions of pounds higher, tens of thousand of meat industry workers could be unemployed, would decline.

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of tax cuts in the next Budget and beyond.

Ian Shepherdson at City firm HSBC Markets said the sharp fall in beef prices would initially reduce retail prices, but in the longer run a reduced UK supply of beef and dairy products would raise imports and increase inflation. At the outside, warned yesterday that in the if the entire herd were slaughtered, inflation could be 1.5 per cent higher than its current 2.9 per cent.

.The loss of British supplies would also damage the baiinflation would rise and growth ance of trade. Beef exports -amount to just over £500m a The damage to public sector year, but Britons spend £3.5bn on home produced beef, some

of which will switch to imported meat. If dairy exports were also affected, the trade deficit might be as much as £7bn a year

Although consumers will switch to alternatives such as pork and poultry, Mr Shepherdson argued that the crisis could reduce GDP by more than I per cent in a full year.

Other economists thought the effects on the economy would not be this big, as the loss of the entire herd seems unlikely. However, there could be a severe impact in meat-producing regions such as East Anglia and Scotland. Many predicted the crisis

would have dire consequences The costs of additional Photograph: Brian Hamis

The immediate cost would be healthcare for the unknown future number of victims of CJD compensation for farmers, with preliminary estimates of the enter the equation too, altotal cost of slaughtering all 11m though insurers said vesterday cattle put at £7bn to £20bn. The that private medical insurance EU will pick up some of the policies covered the disease. eventual bill for farm compensation, but the amount would

A further burden on the public purse will be unemployment benefit for those who lose their jobs in the beef industry. It currently employs about 40,000 people, including 5.500 in slaughterhouses.

Simon Briscoe, an expert on government finances at City bank Nikko Europe said: "There is a small risk the Government will face an enormous cost of billions of pounds and a very good chance that the cost will run into hundreds of mil-

Next week in MINDEPENDENT

From Monday, Section Two will have a completely new look, with more pages, new features, a daily radio column and an expanded listings section providing Britain's most comprehensive daily guide to going out.

on Monday

A new section focusing on Family Life, beginning with an investigation into how children's television is threatening the family unit. In the centre pages, each week we challenge the personalities and institutions that have become icons of Nineties life. On Monday, we ask: Do we need Start the Week? Plus: In the second part of our series on the making of the modern girl, we examine teenage attitudes to sex, relationships and marriage.

zzi iz Sport A 24-page section with all the action from a big weekend of sport. Plus: Part one of a major investigation into the crisis afflicting English cricket. Where does our summer game go from here? And the Monday interview with Alan Shearer, the striker who doesn't mind not scoring replicitor.

Part three of the making of the modern girl: how the Nineties generation gets what it wants. Plus: Health - a new treatment for chronic fatigue. Also on Tuesday, fashion, architecture, visual arts and media.

Our new back pages section introduces a weekly feature on the history of popular culture.

Theatre, midweek travel section, your money, finance and law. Plus - Final part of the making of the modern girl: what the future holds for the teenager of the Nineties In our back pages, Martin Newell, Britain's leading rock poet, and Neil Kerber, one of the country's funniest cartoonists, present their views of the modern world.

All our regular features, including Dilemmas, John Walsh's column, plus film, education and graduate plus. In the back pages, William Hartston's history of the world in 101/2 inches

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Whistleblowers say

CHARLES ARTHUR

Three scientists have been

has claimed since 1989 that way. However, he was repeat-edly dismissed as a scaremonger, even though he had been proven correct in previous years when he warned of the risks posed by salmonella. He is predicting that hundreds of thousands of people could develop CJD as a result of consuming BSE-infected foods.

and TV channels.

open for families to sue

have to be negotiated by the

claims from the rest of the

meat and meat processing in-

dustry could also be expected.

A Treasury spokesman said any

estimates of the cost would be

hypothetical, as the extent of

compensation if meat products

had to be withdrawn from the

shelves would be a matter for

Avenues

Additional compensation

COMPENSATION PATRICIA WYNN DAVIES Legal Affairs Editor

While the beef crisis has yet to spawn a stampede of victims rushing for their writs, there are potential avenues for claiming compensation for suffering and financial damage.

A Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease victim - even one who had consumed burgers in Elvis Presley-type proportions - would make little headway trying to sue the retailers of the foods. That is because of the difficulty in proving which of a multi-tude of butchers, burger bars and other foodstores passed on the fatal ingredient, perhaps five or six years ago.

A complaint against the sup-pliers of foodstuffs for cows might be a different matter. Farmers might also have possi-

During the Sixties, Seventies and Eighties, the largely self-regulated industry, the so-called renderers", used sheep scurry to improve protein content of

the foodstuffs.

According to Martyn Day, a personal injury lawyer specialsing in "class" actions for multiple clients, a big question is whether the protein, often from old carcasses, was heated sufficiently to kill the disease.

A fresh wave of political difficulty for Tory ministers - or their successors - would come if and when people contemplated suing the Government for negligence. Much would depend on whether the small number of CID cases hides an epidemic. A large number of claimants could give rise to a high-profile class action - and considerable sympathy from

the public. The more CJD cases that emerge, the greater will be the political pressure to pay compensation without putting claimants to proving their cases in court.

. If that day ever came, Mr Day puts the size of individual claims in six figures. That would cov-



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they are vindicated

Science Correspondent

claiming for years that the threat posed to humans by mad

BSE would pass on to humans,
cow disease, or BSE, is far and that an epidemic was on the greater than the Government has admitted. Stephen Dealler, Richard Lacey and Harash Narang are independent of each other, but their work has had a common theme: an epidemic of CJD is on the way because of BSE. Dr Dealler, a senior registrar

at Burnley General Hospital, has made a detailed study of the epidemiological risks to hu-mans, assuming varying levels of infectivity from BSE-infected beef. In a wide-ranging study, he has also visited meat markets, auctions and abat-toirs to find out at first hand whether farmers and slaughterhouse workers were really following the Government's guidelines. He often found that

Richard Lacey, a microbiol-

ogist at the University of Leeds,

But colleagues say that Professor Lacey was too ready to talk to the media when his re-search was incomplete. Scientists generally prefer to carry out their arguments through the pages of scientific journals rather than through newspapers

Dr Narang is also a microbiologist, but has alienated many other scientists by putting for-ward a theory for BSE - that it

is caused by a "slow virus" which takes decades to act - that conflicts with a number of peerreviewed experiments. Based in Newcastle, he is now funded by a private businessman, having been fired from the Government's Public Health Laboratory Service in the 1980s.

He claims to have developed a urine test for both BSE and CID which can diagnose the disease while the victim is still alive. He claims though that he has been the victim of a witch-hunt in which his car's tyres have been slashed and his house broken into.

However, other scientists point to what they see as in-consistencies in Dr Narang's work. One is that BSE has not been linked to any cases of CJD until 10 unusual deaths in humans, apparently from a new strain of the disease, which occurred in the past two years. This, they say, shows that Dr Narang's evidence for a link in

Crisis sets Tories against friends in meat industry

CHRIS BLACKHURST Westminster Correspondent

The Government runs the risk of alienating some of its staunchest supporters over the handling of the beef crisis.

Ties between the Tory party and meat industry go much deeper than the traditional one of the gentleman farmer turned backbench shire loyalist.

The family still most closely identified with beef, the Vesteys. has been a generous giver to the party. While it did not make a donation last year. Lord Vestey's company, Western United Investments, has given £621,000 in the recent past making it one of the Tories

largest benefactors. Hillsdown Holdings, one of rial special adviser. UK's biggest meat processors and operator of 12 abbatoirs, has an entrée to the highest levels. In 1992, John Gummer, rebuked by a communice of MPs larly gives £8,000 to the City and company, Waldegrave Farms.

for having a £2,000 pond in the

garden of his Suffolk home paid for by Hillsdown. Barry Legg, the Conservative,

MP for Millon Keynes South West, was its company secretary before going to Parliament; Sir John Nott, the former Cabinet minister, is its executive chairman and Paul Judge, until recently the Conservatives director-general, sold them his food company, Premier Brands.

Mr Judge was also head of Food From Britain, the government-backed bureau to proprior to going to Smith Square to try and sort out the Tories' finances. He is now a ministe-Another large meat compa-

ny, Samworth, based in Leices-

tershire, which makes pies and

pastics, supports its local Con-

servative association and regu-

Industrial Liaison Council, widely thought to be a Conser-

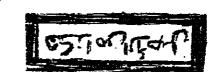
vative-supporting organisation. David Samworth, the company's chairman, is also a former chairman of the Meat and Livestock Commission, the industry lobbying group.

The MP hardest hit by the

scare is likely to be Christopher Gill. Not only is he a farmer but his family firm F A Gill is a meat packer and processor. Until recently, Simon Burns,

the Tory MP for Chelmsford, listed McDonalds, the burger chain, as one of those companies to which he gave parliamote British food overseas, . mentary advice. The company has been dropped from his en-try in the 1995 MPs' register. In all, 28 Conservatives list

farming among their outside interests. At the most senior level, they include William Waldegrave, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, who owns er the horrendous suffering, shares in the family farming loss of amenity and financial



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INLA declares units ready for war

DAVID MCKETTRICK Ireland correspondent

The small but ferocious Irish National Liberation Army yesterday served notice that it considers itself back at war, with all its units "placed on stand-

The threat is being taken seriously by the authorities, since the organisation has on many occasions demonstrated an ability to make violent come-backs the early 1990s.

after periods of inactivity. Although much smaller than the IRA and almost certainly incapable of waging a sustained campaign at a high level, its capacity for launching occasional lethal attacks is not in question. It has in the past been responsible for a small number of incidents in Britain. Among the most notorious were the murder of a special constable in North Yorkshire in

"We cannot look on idly as the British cynically draw out and fudge attempts at a negotiated settlement while the full oppressive apparatus of the state employed against the nationalist working class. Neither can we allow our refuetance to be sucked into a cycle of violence to be misconstrued as a sign of weakness."

The statement said that as from midday yesterday, its units

An INLA statement said: had been placed on standby and whom was Gino Gallagher, one would operate "from a position of defence and retaliation." The emphasis on defence is explained by the fact that the organisation is wracked by internal conflicts which have caused several recent deaths.

> This means that a fair amount of its energies are likely to be occupied in feuding rather than attacks on the security forces or loyalist elements. Three people have died recently, the first of

of the organisation's most notorious gunmen.

This led first to the retaliatory murder of a Belfast man in a County Donegal caravan site. and then the accidental killing of a nine-year-old girl. She was shot dead in north Belfast by men who'were apparently trying to kill a relative.

The INLA was almost com-letely quiet during the 17month IRA ceasefire, although

many members did not agree with the peace process. The IRA is assumed to have warned the smaller organisation to halt

its violence.

But the ending of the IRA cessation and the tensions gencrated by the present feud. seem to have brought about yesterday's announcement. The section of the INLA which made the statement appears to be the larger part of the organisation. The strength of the

other dissident faction is not

The Sinn Fein annual conference, which takes place in Dublin this weekend, will have as its centrepiece a keynote speech by the party president. Gerry Adams. The BBC in Belfast vesterday quoted an IRA source describing John Major's election proposal as a "unacceptable", saying the scheme provided no dynamic for a resolution of the conflict.

Footballers for trial

Soccer stars Bruce Grobbelaar, 38, John Fashanu, 32, and Hans Segers, 34, were yesterday committed for trial by a magistrate at Eastleigh, Hampshire, to face match-foing allegations along with Malaysian businessman Heng Lim, 30. The four are accused of conspiring to give and accept gifts of money as inducements improperly to influence the outcome of football matches or as rewards for having so done.

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Action on dogs

Moves for tougher powers to crack down on dog fouling, imposing fines of up to £1,000, has cleared the Commons. The Dogs (Fouling of Land) Bill gained an unopposed third reading and goes to the Lords with Government backing.

Labour poll boost

Labour is heading for a record win in the Staffordshire South East by-election on 11 April, according to an opinion poll dis-missed by Conservatives. The Rinningham Evening Mail poll gives Labour, on 66 per cent, a 0-point lead over the Tories. The Liberal Democrats were on 13 per cent.

Cathedral siege

Police surrounded the catholic cathedral in Northampton last night after a man, believed to he armed, took shelter there. A negotiating team was in place.

Toothpaste bid blow A bid to launch a mass legal action on behalf of children whose ieeth were allegedly damaged by fluoride in toothpaste suffered a setback yesterday when a High Court judge refused campaigners legal aid.

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Paedophile's jail term 'to protect the unborn'

A judge jailed a sex molester for 27 years after telling him he wanted to protect Britain's children, including these not yet born. The sentence is one of the longest imposed for offences which do not carry a

A charity worker, Raymond Hodgson, 43, carried out a catalogue of sex abuse on nine young girls. Police caught him after he had abused four children but he escaped by locking officers in his house."

He went on to sexually abuse another five children, after winning the trust of their parents as he travelled around Britain. He was caught when his pho-tograph was shown on the BBC television programme Crimewatch and the station was

Winchester Crown Court was shown a pornographic video Hodgson made in which he forced a six-year-old girl to perform sexual acts. Judge Martin Tiicker QC told him: "Having seen in the video of the sort of things you were doing, it must. be realised what a revolting er set of children. series of offences these were.

When you are eventually at liberty the overwhelming probagain. I have got to protect chil-dren and unborn children. L am passing a sentence

that will keep you inside until your sexual life is on the wane. The court heard wodgson re-offended when he was released from prison after a conviction for raping a 12-year-old girl.

The girls he targeted on his release were aged 6 to 13.

The court heard Hodgson be-

gan working for a charity and befriended one of his employees who had young children. Once he won the family's trust he began abusing the girl. After befriending this girl he met other youngsters by "wheedling himself into the affections and

trust of their parents". One girl told police Hodgson pulled her into his bed, stripped and removed her pants.

While visiting friends in Gosport, Hampshire, Hodgson abused an eight-year-old girl after giving her shandy. The girl woke in the middle of the night to find Hodgson touching her. She began crying and later told her sister. Police were alerted. But when police went to

arrest Hodgson he conned them into letting him say goodbye to his landlady, locking them in the house while he escaped. He then moved north to Morecombe under an assumed name where he again used his work with a charity to abuse anoth-

Hodgson said he did not know why he had abused the children. Ninety per cent of the ability is you will try to do it time I am like any other in the street and then situations crop up and I lose control," he said.

Hodgson, of Basingstoke, Hampshire, admitted six counts of indecent assault, four of indecency with a child and five photographs, and one of



Last post: Musician Karl Long at the Marines' School of Music which leaves its barracks in Deal, Kent, next week

Judge tells Labour to reconsider ballot

BARRIE CLEMENT

A High Court judge yesterday ordered Tony Blair and the Labour Party's national executive to reconsider their refusal to re-rim a controversial selection ballot at Swindon North.

Sir John Vinelott indicated that the decision of the Labour leadership had been based on a misleading presentation of the facts by Peter Coleman, the party's director of develop-

Last month the NEC voted by 14 votes to 9 to set up a subcommittee to appoint a Labour parliamentary candidate for the constituency rather than order a fresh vote.

The first ballot in September was won by Michael Wills, producer. However, the runnerup, Jim D'Avila, a Rover car factory convenor for the Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union, alleged that there

had been irregularities. The bitterness engendered by the dispute has been characterised as a battle between a London "luvvie" and a local working class lad, although the is an oversimplification. " In his judgment, Sir John con-

ceded he had no power to order the Labour Party to change a "political" decision and refused to grant an injunction to Mr D'Avila, who was backed by his union. "The only fair course for Mr D'Avila and the local electorate is to ask the NEC to take a fresh look at this, free

Mr Coleman, which were not fair to Mr D'Avila," the judge

■ The veteran Labour campaigner for the disabled, Alf Morris, last night said he was retiring at the next election. Mr Morris, MP for Wythenshawe, 68th birthday today, has a ma-

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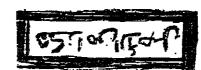
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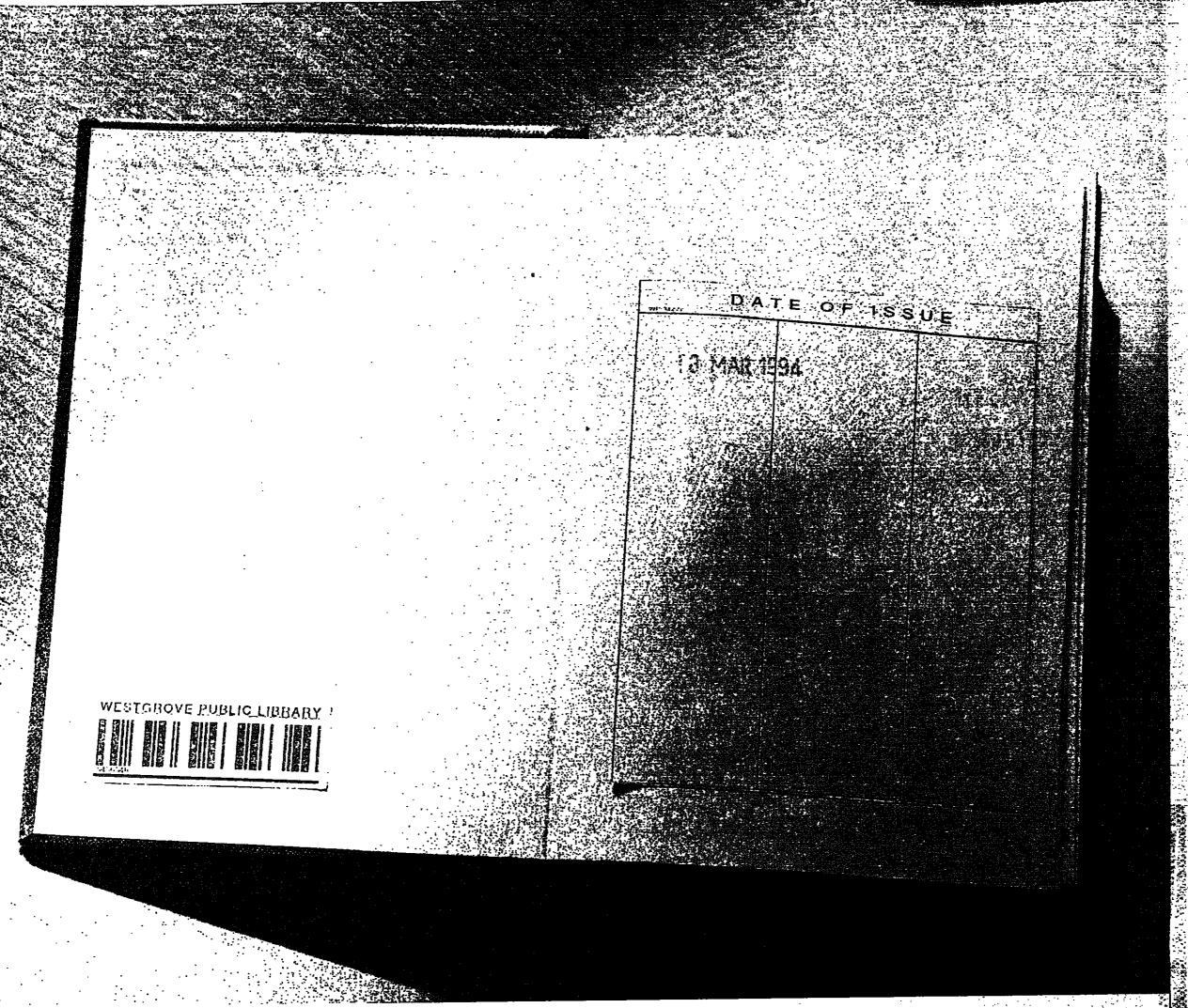
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Doctor used patients as guinea pigs

his patients as guinea-pigs for drug trials without their knowledge or consent, was struck off the medical register yesterday.

Dr Geoffrey Fairliarst, 57, of Warrington, Cheshire, was told his name would be taken off the register after a three-day hearing at the General Medical meil in London found him guilty of using his patients as unknowing participants in trials of potentially dangerous drugs, for which he received payments

Dr Fairhurst had been accused of forging signatures of four patients at his surgery in St Helens, Merseyside, without their written or verbal consent.

He was said to have been caught out when a partner at the surgery, Dr David Edwards, "turned whistleblower" and re-ported him to the GMC.

After the decision, Miss Rosalind Foster, barrister to the GMC, told its professional conduct committee this was an example of "the bigger they come, the harder they fall".

Dr Fairhurst, a government advisor on health and a former JP, was also chairman of a med-

ical ethics committee. Patients had "an absolute right" to decide whether to participate in drug trials after being given full information. You have found that four patients in three trials have been .

denied that right."
The doctor who had "blown the whistle" had been badly affected and had to accept a great deal vitriol". She said the out by whistie-blower

activities of Dr Fairhurst had "a grave potential for harm".

The hearing was told of bitbeen paid sums of money by Giazo Pharmaceutical and other drug companies between 1988 and 1995. Miss Foster said Dr Edwards decided to become a "whistleblower" because he was concerned for the

safety and welfare of patients. Dr Edwards claimed to have discovered dishonesty and the falsification of drug records for trials, mainly for treatments for heart complaints and high

Nicola Davies QC, for Fairhurst, said the case had a "deeply unhappy background".

Dr Edwards had a strong dislike for Dr Fairhurst. Further the GMC could not prove



Geoffrey Fairhurst: Caught

false signatures on consent forms. She was not suggesting ter disagreement between the the patients were lying but it two doctors. Dr Fairhurst, had was significant they had all been in ill health and on a number of medications for many

The committee was later considering whether the doctor was guilty of serious profes-

Sir Donald Irvine, president of the GMC and chairman of the professional conduct committee, told Dr Fairhurst he had abused the trust of patients and undermined the medical profession. Sir Donald also encouraged other doctors to report malpractice after hearing how colleague Dr David Ed-wards and Dr Min Shah blew

the whistle on Dr Fairhurst. Striking Dr Fairhurst from the register he said: "Trust lies at the heart of the practice of medicine. Patients must be able to trust doctors with their lives and well being. That trust must not be abased.

"Medical research is fundamental to the advance of medical practice and must always be conducted with scrupulous hon-esty and integrity. Where doc-tors intend to involve patients in clinical trials, it is essential that they first give those patients a proper explanation.

Patients have a right to know what it involves and understand the implications for them before they are invited to take part. No trial should ever be carried out without the consent of the patient."



Boot sales trade on 'carnival spirit'

GLENDA COOPER

Car boot sales are not just standing in the rain and the mud to buy a video that you know will

According to investigation. boot sales offer an anarchic, family. "carnivalesque" experience, are truly democratic and can earn a vendor £8(#) a week-

The report, funded by the Economic and Social Research Council, reveals that an estimated 1 million people go to car boot sales every weekend, not just to pick up bargains, but because they enjoy the experience of haggling and the theatrical performances of the sellers.

ess since the 1970s, is the different experience they offer from the conventions and predictability of the shopping mail.

Much of the pleasure comes from pitting one's skills against others; from knowing that things might not be what they seem, that they almost certainly won't work ... but there's just a chance that they might - and that would make something a 'real bargain'." Dr Louise Crewe, one of the authors of the

Although the opportunity to pick up bargains was one of the main draws, researchers found consumers were attracted by the spectacle and the ability of the boot fair to capture "the absurd. the grotesque, the ridiculous and the downright hilarious".

Regular sellers perform. Some adopt the style of the market-stall holder, others act like hawkers or peddlers and others take on the conventions of the fairground ="roll up, roll up" = or the comedy act. "For lamateur booters! the

sense of carnivalesque comes from ... the sheer absurdity that they can participate in a phenomenon which entails getting up at the crack of dawn on a Sunday morning, driving to a remote location ... parking with hundreds of others before daybreak, often in rain and mud.

attract people of every social class and age, scotching the notion that boot sales are the preserve of "recessionary Britain's underclass". Only 4 per cent were unemployed.

The average "booter" spends £7.96 at each sale and buys eight tems. Sellers can make a profit of about £90 each and in some cases up to £800 a weekend.

Many local authorities were worried about hoot sales flouting retail legislation - especialtrading standards. Many perceived them as places where petty criminals flourished.

But Dr Crewe said: "Car boot sales are clearly here for the long run."

Family's 'strain' over coma mum case

The husband of the Scottish right-to-die patient Janet Johnstone told last night of the tremendous strain his family has been under after hearing that five judges had delayed a decision on the case.

In the latest stage of a pro-tracted court battle. Scotland's top judges agreed in opinions released yesterday that the Court of Session in Edinburgh had the power to make a recommendation that doctors at Law Hospital in Carluke, Lanarkshire, should be al-lowed to withdraw artificial feeding from Mrs Johnstone, 53. But they said the civil courts could not give doctors immunity

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from prosecution.

The case - the first in Scotland - has now been referred back to a single judge. Lord Cameron of Lochbroom, who heard evidence earlier and asked for guidance from senior judges. His ruling is expected within the next few weeks.

Mrs Johnstone has been in a coma since taking a drug over-dose in January 1992.

Her husband Peter, of Allanton, Lanarkshire, said: Janet would have wanted to die in peace and with dignity. The decision is taking so long. The whole family has been put under a tremendous strain because of it. I feel so helpless.

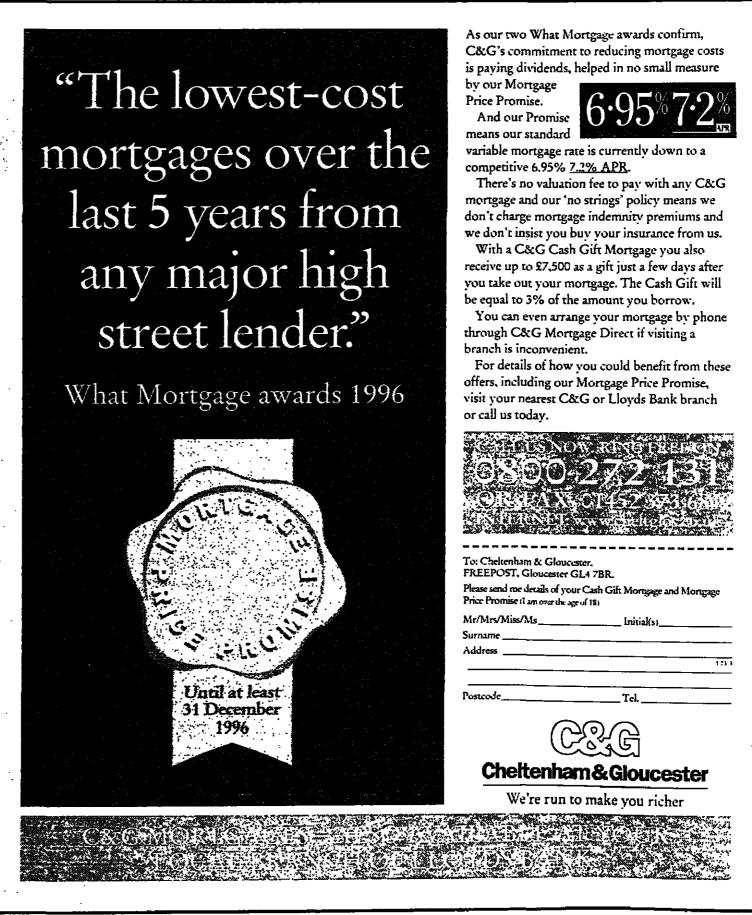
The hospital had asked the Court of Session to rule that doctors may "lawfully discontinue" treatment of Mrs Johnstone. However, medical experts, supported by the woman's family, say she is in a persistent vegetative state with no prospect of recovery. However, they are afraid that they could be charged in the criminal courts if they withdraw feeding and let her die.

THE PAPER — THE WRITERS "If the predictions are true, and millions of us will be infected by 2010, at least there's one consolation. We may well end up thick, but we'll all have impressivesounding letters after our names: B.S.E., C.J.D. (0xen)" VICTOR LEWIS-SMITH **EVERY SATURDAY** "Only the very brave or the very stupid would continue to eat beef in these uncertain times. Which brings us back to John Gummer .."



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MARIANNE MACDONAL Media Correspondent

The BBC yesterday came finder fierce criticism for plans to show a Saudi Arabian crammai

being beheaded with a sword,

Polly Peck scandal: Former financier Elizabeth Forsyth faces years in prison as her disgraced employer languishes in hiding

Banker jailed over £400,000 PPI theft

Elizabeth Forsyth, a former charge which he was facing banker, was convicted at the Old Bailey today of laundering £400,000 stolen by her ex-employer Asil Nadir from his public company Polly Peck International.

custody by Mr Justice Tucker for pre-sentence reports: a defence down. The judge warned her to be under "no illusion as to the likely nature of the sentence".

Forsyth, from Great Dunmow in Essex, had denied two charges of handling the stolen cash in October 1989.

Lawyers for Asil Nadir are £30m theft charges against the fugitive businessman to be thrown out.. His solicitor Peter Krivinskas said Nadir planned to apply to the High Court for the case to be dropped on the grounds of abuse of process. Nadir alleges general abuse, but the claim is understood to cen-tre on the Serious Fraud Office's handling of the case and prej-udicial media coverage.

The jury's verdict today, in essence, also convicts the fugitive tycoon, in his absence, of

when he jumped bail three years ago, four months before he was due to stand trial, and fled to North Cyprus...

The jury of seven women and five men, who deliberated on Forsyth, 59, was remanded in the verdict for nearly 12 hours. were told that before they could find Forsyth guilty that the Crown had first to prove that Nadir had stolen the money. As chairman of South Aud-

ley Management (SAM) Forsyth managed the Nadir family's private businesses and wealth. She had helped Nadir to siphon cash along a circuitous route through Swiss now expected to apply for the and English bank accounts to

October 1989 Forsyth went to Geneva to withdraw £400,000 in cash. The following day she deposited just over £300,000 in a different bank with instructions that it should be transferred to AJ Bekhor, a London stockbroker to whom Nadir owed money. Forsyth returned to Britain the next day and gave the remaining cash to a chauffeur to bank. It was to pay mon-

pay his private debts, including a large share-dealing bill. The prosecution said that in

> Forsyth maintained she had been sent to Geneva by Nadir simply to "hold the hands" of his bankers there following the Black Friday crash on the US markets. While in Geneva she said she was asked by a former director of SAM to withdraw

out the transaction. The SFO say they are intent and he has been placed on Interpol lists.

Forsyth had herself gone to Northern Cyprus in early 1992. She had been questioned by the SFO the previous year, and in the summer of 1992 she learnt that the SFO wanted to interview her again, and in Septem-

he remains a fugitive in Cyprus. ber 1994 she decided to return to Britain to face the music. Forsyth was on bail through-

> out the five-week trial and was supported on many days by her 89-year-old mother. Asil Nadir had been regarded as one of the wealthiest

men in Britain. His £1.3bn PPI empire collapsed soon after the Serious Fraud Office raid-the Conservative Party.

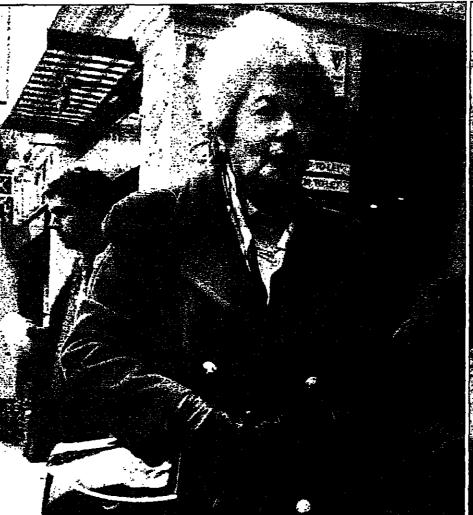
ed SAM'S Mayfair premises in

As a businessman, Nadir had won Queen's Awards for industry, and had been invited to 10 Downing Street several times by the then Prime Minister Mrs Thatcher, Mr Robinson said, adding that Nadir bad also contributed large sums to

> lucrative arms contracts." UK exports to Saudi Arabia totalled £1.5bn in 1994, but Saudi Arabia has indicated that if the Home Office refuses to deport Mr Masari it could with-

Roger Gale, chairman of the

A BBC spokeswoman said: "It is not sensational. You do not



'Under no illusions': Elizabeth Forsyth (left), convicted yesterday of laundering £400,000 for her former boss Asil Nadir (right)

don. She claimed she had no knowledge of the monies' ori- A warrant is out for his arrest

gin and had no reason to believe anything she was doing was unlawful. Geoffrey Robertson OC, her counsel, said Forsyth had been simply doing her duty when she was ordered to carry

the cash and transfer it to Lon- on prosecuting Nadir, although

The inspector's report accompanying the letter referred to the "applauded efforts of the

pact on the environment within the site. There was considerable public support for this project and no one doubted the sincerity of the group's aims and intentions."

collective to minimise their im-

were concerned that the granting of planning permission

Dixons

would encourage further travellers to settle.

My view is that a favourable decision here would lead to simor tents with a serious cumulative impact on the rural landscape and the provisions of public services," the inspector said. The collective has 12

Ravi Low Beer of the Public Law Project, who has represented the collective, said that the decision was "disappointing but not unexpected" and that ilar applications and consents for temporary sites for benders they were considering ways to appeal. "We say that these people shouldn't be evicted, that once humanitarian issues have been raised the onus is on the public bodies concerned to show why people should be evicted," he said.

in a move that could further undertnine Britain's relationship with Saudi Arabia. rith Saudi Arabia. The shots of the public execution are due to be shown on Panorama on 1 April. The documentary was triggered by controversy over the Saudi dissident Mohammad al-Masari, 49, whose deportation from London was ordered after he allegedly attempted to un-dermine the Saudi government. Mr Masari was tortured for six months and lost his job as a professor of physics after he established the Committee for the Defence of Legitimate Rights. Barcl

broth

a human rights group, in Sau-di Arabia in 1993. The Home Office is now reconsidering its decision to deport the Islamic activist, who has also embarrassed the British government by repeatedly denouncing the "corruption" of the Saudi royal family.

The documentary is likely to further sour relations between Britain and Saudi Arabia. In its listing, the BBC describes the country as "what many consider to be the world's most brutal and despotic regime".

It continues: "Last year nearly 200 people were publicly beheaded in Saudi, many for offences involving trafficking alcohol and adultery, yet the British government does notdare to criticise its close Middle East ally for fear of losing

draw business contracts with Britain.

influential Tory backbench media committee, said yesterday. "If they are going to show de-capitation I would regard this as wholly gratuitous unpleas-

LIK'S BIGGEST

Travellers may fight Gummer's refusal of 'living village' would set a precedent that panels, uses dead wood for In a letter Mr Gummer, said:

JOJO MOYES

A group of travellers may appeal to the High Court after the Secretary of State for the Environment turned down planning permission for them to build an "experimental sustainable living system" in a field they had bought in Somerset.

In what was seen as a test case, the 20 members of the Kingshill Collective were the

subject of a planning inquiry likely to set a precedent for "alternative dwellers" across

Nearly two years ago they bought four acres of land near Glastonbury and applied for permission to set up home. Their alternative village, comprising 16 "benders" – semi-permanent homes made from largely organic materials - takes its power supply from solar

THE UNCERTAINTY OF IBS. You can never tell when Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS) will next strike, nor what form it will take. You may suffer any or all of the following symptoms: stomach muscle spasms leading to cramping pains in the lower stomach, bloatedness and digestive disorders such as

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DOES IT CONTINUE?

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certain things, such as particular foods and

the intestine then reacts unpredictably to

The individual's experience of the syndrome

constipation or diarrhoea.

you should consult your doctor.

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Simply, your intestine goes

Frequently this results in pain;

although the other symptoms

into spasm: it knots up.

may also stem from this.

further stress.

heat and draws water from a bore hole at the top of the field. But it was denied permission

by Mendip District Council, which said it was seeking to protect the rural and visual character of the area. The refusal and appeal triggered several cases where John Gummer, the Secretary of State, "called in" theirs and similar judgements

Irritable Bowel Syndrome

pain ruled my life.

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the rules."

"The considerations favouring the grant of planning permission include continued security, savings to the public purse, sustainability and experimental

But he added: "The view is taken that all of these considerations . . . are not of sufficient strength to outweigh the strong planning objections, including the highway objections."

But it said that local residents

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Dusted off: Marilyn Dalton, general manager of Audley End House at Saffron Walden, Essex, arranging one of its tens of thousands of stuffed birds and animals for the new season's re-opening on 3 April Photograph: Bnan Hams

Stargazers hope cloudbreak will give sight of Hyatukake

TOM WILKIE and PAUL FIELD

Britain's clouded skies have so far denied thousands of amateur and professional astronomers any glimpse of the brightest comet to grace our skies for 20

And the disappointment is likely to continue, according to weathermen. The BBC Radio forecaster Philip Eden reported that the only breaks in cloud covering Britain today are ex-pected to be in south-east Eng-land and north-west Scotland. By tomorrow, only stargazers in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland will stand a chance of spotting the comet.

However by Monday - the day of comet Hyakutake's closest approach to Earth - there should be some hope for peo-ple in the north-west of England. Only by the middle of the week might there he a break in the cloud over eastern England. If the clouds do lift next week, the comet should be

Photograph: AP Tail spin: Full view of Comet Hyakutake

among the brightest objects in the sky, easily bright enough to be seen with the naked eye. It will be visible virtually all night from Britain, Looking east, it will appear among the stars close to the constellation of the Plough, gradually changing its position in the sky in successive evenings before disappearing from view in the vicinity of the Pleiades at the end of April. Contrary to popular belief. comets do not flash across the

sky, so Hyakutake will actually

appear virtually stationary to the naked eye. The comet is basically a ball of dust and ice, just a few kilometres across, which was formed at around the same time as the planets. As it nears the sun, ice and dust stream off the nucleus, forming an at-

mosphere and a tail. There is also a straighter, narrower "plasma" tail - consisting of ionised gases. This writhes as it is blown by the "solar wind" - a stream of charged atomic

the sun. Kinks often appear in this tail and sometimes it appears to drop off altogether. Ionised water is an important

constituent of the plasma tail and is formed by water molecules escaping the nucleus and then being bombarded by the sun's ultraviolet radiation.

Among the many observations which will be made of the comet around the world, at the Mullard Space Science Laboratory of University College London, the astronomer Geraint Jones will be looking just at the light from this ionised water molecule, by using a colour filter to block out all other wavelengths. The study will east light on the chemistry of the comet and trace how the molecules are accelerated though space by the solar wind.

The comet was discovered in late January by a Japanese amateur astronomer. Yuji Hyakutake, using large binoculars. Its orbit is thought to take around 18,000 years to complete a circuit around the sun.

Barclay brothers seek 'UDI' for island

CHRIS BLACKHURST

David and Frederick Barclay, the reclusive multi-millionaire ... owners of the Ritz Hotel in London and the Scotsman and European newspapers, yesterday formally applied for effective independence for Brecqhou, the tiny island they own in the Channel Islands.

Also yesterday, a court in St brothers that they were falsely BBC interview, broadcast in Guernsey last October and heard on the French mainland.

Breeghou, where they are currently building a mock-Gothic clifftop fortress home. Their application may ultimately have to be resolved by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Coun-

If successful, the brothers, who eschew all personal pub-licity, will avoid paying Sark's minimal taxes and will have a tighter control over who can, and cannot, visit their domain. They have been complaining to Michael Beaumont, the Seigneur, or governor, of Sark, about the island's police force visiting Breeghou.

worth an estimated £600m. They told Guernsey's Royal Court, the island's equivalent of the High Court in England, yes-terday, that in their view Brecohou forms no part of Sark, its allegations "vigorously".

larger neighbour, which traditionally has ruled over the island. Giving their addresses as Avenue Princess Grace, Monte Carlo, the brothers demanded repayment from the Sark authorities of £179,000 in property tax they were required to pay when they bought Brecqhou in 1993 for a reported £2.3m.

In their declaration, made for them by Lloyd Strappini, one of Malo, France began hearing a the Channel Islands' leading complaint by the Barclay lawyers, they declared that "Brecchou forms not part of the accused of corruption in a fief of Sark"; that a law of 1611 hanning the break-up of Sark did not apply to their island; and "that the Court of the Seneschal In a move disclosed in the of Sark [the island's highest au Independent, the Barclays are thority] has no jurisdiction over effectively declaring UDI for Brecqhou".

Mr Beaumont, who inherited the title from the legendary Dame of Sark, asked for more time to prepare his defence. The court granted a request from his lawyer, David Le Marquand, who said the Seigneur would need "lots of time". If the St Malo case goes against the BBC, the judgment

is likely to be seen as a significant legal precedent and may pave the way for further actions against media, printing or broadcasting in the UK and be-ing read and heard in France. The Barclay twins are claim-

ing criminal libel damages of visiting Brecqhou ing criminal libel damages of files, and numerous properties around the world, are terview with Observer journal. ist John Sweeney, they were wrongly accused of having en-gaged in acts that could be qualified as corruption. The BBC has said it will contest the

Screening by GPs faces axe

NICHOLAS TIMMINS Public Policy Editor .

year health promotion package undertaken by family doctors which academics say is largely a waste of taxpayers' money.

The scheme involves GPs counting their patients aged 15-74 who smoke, recording their blood pressure, alcohol consumption and obesity; their ment's Health of the Nation tar-family history of heart disease gets, but the study said focusing and stroke, and offering them on those who have heart disease advice on a better lifestyle.

The scheme - which pays family doctors thousands of pounds a year if they hit all their targets – has been one of the targets - has been one of the contract the Government imposed on GPs in 1990. GPs say it is bureaucratic, untargeted and involves counting numbers rather than genuinely inter- of this particular programme vening to improve health.

Stephen Dorrell, Secretary of State for Health, has told GPs'

An evaluation in 1994 of the British Family Heart Study, which uses intensive interven-The Government is prepared to tions by nurses to try to per-consider abolishing an £85m-a-suade, individuals to change their lifestyle, concluded it was "of little benefit". The gains from the less-intensive programme most GPs offer were therefore "likely to be even

smaller", the study concluded. stroke is one of the Government's Health of the Nation taror are known to be at high risk was likely to give better results.

more controversial parts of the move yesterday, but stressed that neither Mr Dorrell nor GPs wanted to put an end to health promotion in general practice. "It's just that we want to get rid and the way it is constructed."

spanky periormende and bak economy of as raudice.

The change is likely to come as part of a new contract which leaders at the British Medical Mr Dorrell has indicated will be association that he recognises on offer if he and GPs' leaders "the dissatisfaction" within the can agree on changes that will profession over the programme, shift more of the work tradiadding. Lam therefore willing tionally done in hospitals into

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Kremlin digs in heels over Nato expansion

Europe Editor

The United States and Russia failed yesterday to narrow their differences over Nato's plans to incorporate former Communist countries in central and eastern Europe.

Speaking after a meeting in Moscow between President Boris Yeltsin and the US Sec-retary of State, Warren Christopher. Russia's Foreign Minister. Yevgeny Primakov, said: "Russia will never accept Nato enlargement, not because it has any right of yeto, but because it will not tolerate a worsening geopolitical situation and will stand by its interests.

Russia's leadership regards Nato's planned expansion as a challenge to Russian security that could throw Europe back into a second "Ice Age" of East-West confrontation. But Mr Christopher, speaking in Prague last Wednesday to 12 central- and eastern-European foreign ministers, reaffirmed that Nato had committed itself to expansion and said the renot be kept waiting forever.

if Nato did not move its "military infrastructure" into potential new member-states such as the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland. However, both Nato and the three central European states are adamant that Russia cannot dictate the terms of their admission into the

Nato's Secretary-General, Javier Solana, visited Moscow earlier in the week and urged Russian leaders to recognise that Nato no longer resembled the military alliance that it was in Cold War times. However,



Mr Primakov suggested a Mr Christopher: Adamant

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the Russians repeated their argument that Nato's expansion vould represent an unaccept able extension of Western influence up to Russia's borders.

Despite the clash of views over Nato, Mr Christopher made clear that the US still had faith in Mr Yeltsin's reformist potential and hoped he would emerge victorious from next June's presidential election. He said that President Bill Clinton's policy was "to support the reforms and those who are enthusiastic about reforms and who are carrying out reforms. That has brought him into strong support for President Yeltsin on prior occasions."

Mr Clinton is due to travel to Moscow on 19-20 April for a summit with Mr Yeltsin on puclear security. The visit is like. ly to be interpreted as a show of US solidarity with Mr Yeltsin. Mr Yeltsin faces a strong

challenge from the Communist leader. Gennady Zyuganov. whose party sent shock waves across eastern Europe last week by pushing a resolution through Russian parliament that called for the restoration of the Soviet Union, However, the parliament avoided a clash with Mr Christopher vesterday by ignoring a draft resolution from a Communist deputy that denounced the Secretary of State

for criticising last week's vote. Mr Yeltsin, the chief architect of the Soviet Union's dissolution in 1991, has declared himself firmly opposed to Mr Zyuganov's stated aim of recreating the Soviet state by peaceful means. However, after his talks with Mr Christopher, Mr Yeltsin was playing host to the President of Belarus, Alexander Lukashenko, who advocates the integration of his country with Russia.

"I will propose to Mr Yeltsin the signing of a treaty free of all ambiguities and creating union nature.7 Mr Lukashenko said before leaving Minsk for Moscow. When he visited Moscow last month, he and Mr Yeltsin signed documents on integration that have yet to be made public.

The Russian authorities have not been entirely enthusiastic about Mr Lukashenko's proposals in the past, partly because they would require substantial Russian economic support for

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Proof of Serb crimes revealed

EMMA DALY Sarajevo

The US has, for the first time, released aerial photographs apparently showing the mass burial of Muslim men from Srebrenica who were executed by Bosnian Serbs after the fall of the enclave in July 1995.

Madeleine Albright, the US ambassador to the United Nations, visited the site at a farm in eastern Bosnia yesterday. then issued photographs to journalists in Sarajevo.

There is evidence that this is a place where there was systematic murdering of large numbers of people - around 1,000," Ms Albright said after her visit to Branjevo farm.

Some evidence for the massacre has come from Serbs who admitted their involvement. They say Muslims were rounded up in Potocari, where Dutch UN troops in Srebrenica were based, then taken by bus north to the site at Branjevo. There, unarmed and defenceless, the men were led out. 10 at a time. and shot.

The two photos, before and after, show an ordinary ploughed field at Branjevo farm on 5 July; on 17 July, a week after the fall of Srebrenica, the field shows the tracks of heavy vehicles, an excavator at work, a mound of earth, and a large number of objects identified by US officials as bodies.

■ The Yugoslav war crimes tribunal yesterday issued its first indictments for war crimes allegedly committed against

to the United Nations, at the 90% COVERAGE Silent witness: Madeleine Albright, US ambassador site of the mass grave, 100km north of Srebrenica Orange now covers 90% of Great Britain's population and is still growing, offering state-of-the-art mobile communications at a price you can afford. Russians try new tactics to BILLING BY THE SECOND Orange charges calls by the second, so you don't flush out Chechen fighters pay a penny more than you need to.

It is growing dark and we are in a red-brick building which could easily be mistaken for an English parish hall, were it not in a Chechen village in the middle of a war zone.

To its occupants, a group of separatist fighters, it is headquarters, a place to plan nocurnal raids on the marauding Russian army. To the Russians, it is a pocket of resistance, one of those targets which they are under orders to destroy.

But to me, a journalist seeking interviews, it seems more like a local social club, a version of the British Legion in the Caucasus. In the kitchen, two women are peeling onions and boiling water for tea. On the bashed-in sofas and armchairs around the room sit a handful of men, some in fighter's clothes, others in mufti. Every generation is represented here, from a pale boy in fatigues who looks far too young to kill, to a grizzled one-eyed veteran. who looks far too old to do so.

One of the Chechens tells us that the Russian army is less than 10 miles away: we can hear occasional artillery fire and exchanges of machine-gun fire. Two or three fighters, mere youths, lounge around and smoke on the balcony, apparently keeping watch, with their rifles nearby. There is probably no need. The rebels have many supporters out there amid the apple orchards and the muddy lanes, law-abiding residents who would none the less alert them

if the Russians arrived. The leader, Doku Makhayev, lean man with a dense black beard, is sitting on a bed in the corner, under a wall decorated with posters of the guerrilla leaders Dzbokhar Dudayev and Shamil Basayev and a Chechen flag. He is in uniform, and car-

Phil Reeves finds a group of separatists in Chechnya optimistic at the prospect of a new onslaught

ries a knife with a fox's foot han-dle in his breast pocket, a pis-tol at his hip, and the TV agreements were. They might as Before the war, he was a con-

struction worker. Now, at 41, though a father of five, he is a full-time fighter: regimental and deputy chief commander of ment, but was still shelled. the south-western sector, known as Sector Number One. He has 11 villages on his patch,

including this one.

For him, these are particularly troubled times. The Russians have launched an

said. Just look at the fate of Novogroznensky, a village which - according to several reports - had signed an agree-

The strategy of the Russians and the Moscow-backed government of Doku Zavgavev (who claims 77 villages have now signed) is to try to drive a wedge through Chechen communities, causing peaceful residents to

offensive in which they are trying to flush out Mr Dudayev's forces from the villages by perments which the Russians have been - and, in some cases, this

turn against the local fighters whose presence could lead to their doom. It is, however, easy for the rebels to shrug off responsibility for any bloodshed;

they can blame the Russians. They also tend to argue that death is a matter determined only by Allah - no matter how many Russian shells shower down from the heavens. And the Kremlin has almost certainly failed to understand the complexity and depth of the relations which knit together peaceable Chechens with the boyeviki", the fighters.
Talking to Mr Makhayev,

one is inclined to dismiss him as a boaster, a braggart lacking any clout. This evaporates when he suddenly turns up the TV set.

now showing a prestigious Russian current affairs programme. He explains that he arrested one of its journalists, for editing pictures of corpses into a recorded interview with Dudayev. He only let his captive go after the programme agreed to apologise; now he wanted to see if it would keep the promise. It did. "Excellent," he said, quietly

It was a small triumph. Mr Makhayev dreams of bigger victories, winning the right for a referendum on independence and the departure of the Russians. He insists that there would be no massive reprisals. and denies President Yeltsin's claim that an all-out withdrawal would lead to civil war.

"The Muslim courts will deal with 10 or 15 traitors who invited the Russian troops here, but we will find a common language. We are all Chechens, and all of the same blood." What of the hundreds of Chechens, the local Ministry of Interior police, who fought against them in Grozny? "We will forgive them."

For now, this is fantasy. He must focus on the war. He says Mr Dudavey's forces, in absolute disarray last summer, are now stronger and more numerous. "We have arms, we have transport, our people are well rested, and our wounded guys are being taken care of." They are planning another spectacular assault, "a blockbuster movie", he says.

And, sitting in their village headquarters, he and his men mer. Allah helps us by sending log at night. There will be green leaves on the trees soon, and they will screen our manoeuvres." What no one in that building knows, is whether they will live to see the summer,

We have arms and transport, our people are rested and our wounded are being taken care of'

suading elders to sign agreements, promising to expel the fighters from their midst. Those that refuse to do so risk joining the lengthening list of settleweek, still were - bombarding. "In this village, people are not

going to sign," said Mr Makhayev, "There are certain circles who are willing, but they wouldn't dare." His men were therefore stockpiling weapons, and preparing their defences in readiness for a Russian onslaught.

Last mouth, he said, the separatists held a series of rallies

"He wants his children to have a proper holiday,

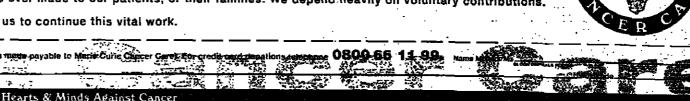
even though he won't be there to see it."

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Tibetan nomads near starvation after hard winter

RAYMOND WHITAKER

Yaks are among the hardiest creatures on earth, but not even these long-haired beasts have been able to withstand the cruellest winter in over a century in the heart of Asia.

Months of drought on the 18,000ft Tibetan plateau, followed by the worst blizzards in living memory and night tem-peratures of 45C, may kill up to a million yaks, cattle and

This is a disaster for 100,000 Tibetan nomads, who are en-tirely dependent on their herds and now face starvation. The Chinese authorities in Sichuan and Qinghai provinces have used up their relief supplies, and are turning to outside agencies

Serge Depotter, a foreign relief worker who recently visited the worst-affected areas, said several dozen people had died said. "They are as p from cold, and 28,000 more people of Ethiopia."

were suffering from frostbite and snow blindness. Respiratory infections, including tuberculosis, have become rife among the mainourished population.

Mr Depotter's organisation. the Belgian branch of Medecins Sans Frontières, has organised a truck convoy to bring 1,200 tonnes of barley, medicines and other supplies to the starving nomads. "It is no longer possible to try to save the livestock. only the people," said an offi-cial of the Qinghai provincial government. But the herdsmen are entirely dependent on their animals for food, fuel, clothing

and hides for their tents. Sean Mayne Smith, a pho-tographer who returned this week from the disaster area, said the Chinese authorities had had to dissuade the nomads from giving relief food to their animals. "Without their herds, these people have nothing," he said. They are as poor as the



Taiwan ponders price of democracy

If things had been different, Liang-chun and Ting-chun would have been old enough to vote in Taiwan's first democra-tic presidential election today.

Instead, their parents, political activists, will this morning reflect on the price their family has paid in the Taiwanese people's struggle for reform: On 28 February 1980 a man entered their guarded home in Taipei and stabbed to death the sixyear-old twin girls and their grandmother. When their elder sister returned from school she too was attacked and only just survived.

The slaughter was probably the worst atrocity of Taiwan's recent political history. Neither the date of the murders nor the victims was a matter of chance. The day marked the anniversary of the 1947 incident which led to the killing of up to 20,000 Taiwanese by ruling Kuomintang (KMT) nationalists determined to crush calls for reform

The two girls were daughters of Lin Yi-hsiung, a lawyer and

As polling begins under the glare of mainland China, activists recall the sacrifices they made, writes Teresa Poole in Taipei

group of pro-democracy ac-tivists, who had appeared in court that morning on sedition charges. The murdered old lady was Mr Lin's mother: No one has been punished and, despite the improved political environment, no official inquiry has been held into the deaths.

Mr Lin's wife, Fang Su-min, still asks: "After my husband's arrest, my house was under 24 hour surveillance. The guards knew if anybody came to my home. How could a murderer have entered my home, and killed three people?" It is presumed a pro-KMT faction probably carried out the killings as a warning to the opposition.
As Peng Ming-min, the can-

didate from the opposition Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) reminded everyone this

trayed. For decades the KMT ruthlessly wiped out opposi-tion. "We worked so hard to get this election," said Antonio Chiang, an editor of political magazines. After the murders, Mr Lin spent four-and-a-half

These days, Ms Fang runs a private institute, the Forest of Mercy foundation, to document the pro-democracy movement and Taiwanese culture: Mr Lin concentrates on opposing Taiwan's planned fourth nuyears in jail, and a decade in ex- clear power station.

China and US delay defence visits

Peking — China yesterday underscored its anger at US military support for Taiwan, announcing a further delay of its defence minister's long-planned visit to the US, because "the present climate is not favourable". In Washington: however, the Defence Secretary, William Perry, said he had postponed next month's trip.

ile. In the 16 years following that terrible afternoon, Taiwan's political climate has changed greatly. Martial law ended in 1987 and opposition parties legalised in 1989. Last night, in a week. Taiwan's evolution to display of democracy, all four democracy has not been as candidates held rallies and member of the Formosa bloodless as is sometimes por marches throughout Taiwan.

The institute is in Ilan county, two hours' drive from Taipei, one of the most solid areas of DPP support. People in Ilan insist reform still has some way to go. "Lee is the worst president, because be allows corruption and the government relation-

Hsiang-neng, who was working in the DPP Han headquarters. Do llan people still hate the KMT? "Yes," said Ms Fang. Twelve years ago Han was one of the first counties to elect an opposition mayor.

But it is Peking, not the Taiwanese, which has defined the agenda for today's polis. China's military threats mean Taiwan's international status is the crucial issue. Most Taiwanese will tell you the same thing; in practice Taiwan is an independent state, has been under separate government for more than a century, and reunification with the Communist People's Republic is unthinkable. Where they disagree is in how to preserve such a fragile status quo and how aggressively to deal with an increasingly belligerent mainland.

Dr Peng of the DPP said the ship with the mafia," said You . One China fiction should be



abandoned in favour of ac-

cepting Taiwan's de facto independence; but he would not declare independence unless China invaded. The incumbent KMT President. Mr Lee Tenghui, denies Peking's allegation that he secretly favours independence but he says China is a cultural entity, and reunification could only occur after the mainland achieves democracy.

That leaves the man most conciliatory towards Peking.

Somali villagers rescue relief workers

KARIN DAVIES Associated Press Writer

Nairobi - Five foreign aid workers taken hostage at a Somali airport by a disgrantled for-mer United Nations contractor were rescued by armed villagers who fired on the kidnappers. Unicel said yesterday.

A young boy was shot in the head by one of the kidnappers during the confrontation and was in a coma, said Pierce Gerety, the agency's Somalia representative, who is based in

Villagers became suspicious of the minivan and pick-up truck loaded with five foreigners and 10 gunmen as it passed through Farsaley, about 75 miles south-west of Mogadishu. at dusk on Thursday.

They realised this was a

kidnapping in progress. said Mr Gerety. They shot at the kidnappers to stop them. One bullet went into the minivan. The kidnappers shot a kid."

The heavily armed villagers surrounded the van, and forced the gunmen to pass their weapons out the windows of their vehicles, Mr Gerety said, quoting one of the hostages. Po-lice took the kidnappers into custody, he added. The village is in an area

Lin Yang-gang, a former KMT stalwart. Even he is hardly a tra-

ditional One China enthusiast:

unification should not have a timetable, he said last week, and

might only take the form of a

Chinese commonwealth

loosely modelled on the Euro-

Democracy will defeat

runs." Mr Lee said yesterday.

Mr Lee, the presumed winner.

has set himself a goal of at least 50 per cent of the vote, which

Western diplomats fervently

hope he achieves. If he does not.

Peking could assume its crude

scare tactics have paid off, say

In Ilan. Ms Fang's family are

firm DPP supporters. Given

the family tragedy, does she ever

wish her husband had not been

involved in politics? "Of course, sometimes I still think like

that," she said. "But when I see

him handing out leaflets in the

street, helping people so hap-

pily. I cannot say anything. I ask,

Why are politics in Tarwan so

dirty?' I think maybe because we

lack trust between people."

pean Union.

some analysts.

served by foreign relief agencies. The hostages spent the night in the UN minivan, and yesterday drove back to Mo-gadishu, the Somali capital.

The Unicef workers included a British security officer. William Condie, as well as a Nepalese, a Sudanese, an Indian, and the American head of the World Health Organisation in Somalia. The five were taken by an

armed gang led by a Somali who formerly rented a vehicle to Unicef, and was unhappy his contract had ended.

International aid organisations employed hundreds of Somalis in the early 1990s until the UN mission to Somalia pulled out a year ago. Armed groups have regularly taken hostages to exact what they feel are arrears in wages.

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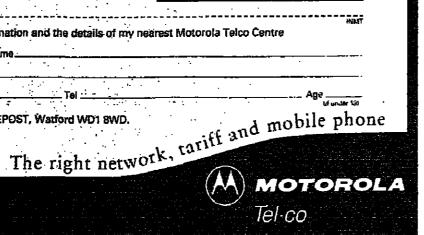
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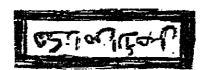
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Brum marches to a happier tune

Te are standing in one of the pleasantest squares in Europe, dominated by an impres gold-leaf-encrusted Hôtel de Ville. There is a large waterfallfountain with a recumbent postmodern statue of a huge, female bather. There is a flower stall on the corner, which is reminiscent of Amsterdam. There is a scuttering of the ornate advertising pillars which are typical of French cities. There are tourists. There are pigeons

Unfortunately, it is pouring with rain. But then what do you expect? This is Birmingham and it is March.

Victoria Square, created by removing part of New Street, is the epicentre of Birmingham's efforts over the past 12 years to re-invent itself - largely thanks to cash from the European Union. Nearby there is a pleasant mall with an atrium, the International Conference Centre, a classical concert hall and a canal-side park. Birmingham always had more canals than Venice but you were never previously advised to visit them.

Beyond - not far beyond, admittedly - you come back to the tangle of urban throughways and high-rises which squeezed the life out of Birmingham in the late 1960s. It is as if the city had set out to become Detroit, changed its mind and decided to become Lille or Liège or Turin instead.

"It was absolutely a conscious decision, absolutely, to go for the European look," said Tony Bradley, Director of Business Policy at the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry. "The City council wanted it to look Enropean and they were quite right because Europe is our future. Birmingham is at the centre of one of the great city-regions of Europe and that is the way we feel Europe will go. It will increasingly be dominated, not by nations, but by city-regions."

This article comes at the end of a series in which the Independent attempts to look into the future of the European Union, not from the standard vantage point of national capitals, but from the perspective of its regions: Bordeaux, Bologna, Bavaria and now Birmingham. In Turin next Friday EU heads of government will launch a ecutive of Birmingham City year-long Inter-governmental 2000, a pressure group seeking



to bolster the city's growing rep-

Conference (IGC) which will try to plot the shape of the European Union for the next century. The received view is that the negotiations will once again see the pro-Europe continental member states and Ireland teaming up against Britain, the perpetually reluctant European.

This may well be so. But our forays into the regions suggest that public opinion - at least, informed business and political opinion – no longer fits either of these traditional moulds. On the continent, post-Maastricht, there is a growing questioning of the purpose and direction; in Britain, outside the fetid atmosphere of Westminster, there remains great scepticism and uncertainty but also a conviction that Britain's place is in Europe.
David Maxwell is Chief Ex-

emerged from the 80s with

utation as an international ser-

vices centre. He says the West

Midlands was traditionally an

inward-looking region, a met-al-bashing manufacturer of

hardware for Britain and its Em-

pire, with little direct contact

with the continent. "We have

much of that industry gone. But that which remains - and the financial service industries which have grown up here - are absolutely committed to the idea of Birmingham, and Britain, as part of European single market.

"There is great suspicion about the idea of more European political integration. Most people can't see the need for it. On the single currency, business here is very divided. But there is also, I think, great unease that the British Government seems always to place Britain on the edge of the debate."

In Victoria Square, I tried for

wider cross-section of Birmingham opinion. In 20 minutes, before the rain destroyed my notebook, I spoke to a dozen or so passers-by. Not one of them was aware of next week's conference; only one person was vaguely aware that the EU had invested £200m in the revival of their city since 1984; all spoke with varying degrees of indifference - but no especial hostility - of the future of the European Union. Of all the people I met more

formally in Birmingham, the one who best summed up the ambivalence of British attitudes was Christopher Spall, senior partner of Barker. Brettell and Duncan, a large firm of patent and trade-mark attornevs. Mr Spall says he has "very strong views" about the EU. "I am strongly against any further bureaucracy and any further political integration. I am strongly against the single currency I saw Chancellor Kohl on the TV the other night, raving on about federalism. Honestly.

Mr Spall grinned impishly. On the other hand, he points out that his firm - once entirely dependent on winning UK patents for local manufacturing businesses – now depends for its survival on British membership of the EU. One third of its

all be needed was the small

work is European; acting for British companies who want a European patent, but also for American and Japanese companies who want both British and European patents.

"When they opened the Eu-ropean Patents office in Munich, I teared the worst, he said. "I thought, here we go, European rules and German officialdom. But it hasn't been like that, It works very sensitively and efficiently. We get on with the Germans very well."

Municipally, Birmingham takes its new-found Europeanness very seriously. It was one of the five founding members of Euro-city, an urban pressure group which now unites more than 60 EU cities. The city council was one of the first in Britain to have its own representation in Brussels. Birmingham has worked aggressively and intelligently to win EU regional fund grants. "Brussels was ready to entertain, and actively support, regeneration projects ... while they were still out of favour in Whitehall," said Gareth Williams, the city's director of European and International Affairs.

But Mr Williams says that Birmingham has found Europe just as invigorating as a habit of mind. Within Britain, Birmingham will always be Birmingham, the second-city. In Europe, we take our place quite naturally in the first tier of big. provincial cities. There is a lot we can learn; there is a lot we can teach. It gives us ... a network, and a network which doesn't go through London."

Habit of mind is an important European issue. Mr Williams believes Europe is also a generational issue: younger generations are, he says, much more upen to the idea of a European Britain. Maybe. On the train to Birmingham,

met a young Brummie in his 20 s. a Sun reader, a van driver out of work because he had lost his driving licence. He cared nothing about European poli-tics. But he was on his way home from Holland, where he had been to register for work. "I've been there before." he

said. "I'm going to get work in the bulb harvest, mate. There's nothing happening in Birmingham. There's nothing happen ing in this country. They know how to live over there."

French back Pacific test ban

Paris - France, the US and Britain will sign the Treaty of Rarotonga, on Monday, turning the South Pacific into a nuclear-free zone, the French Foreign Ministry said yesterday.

The three western powers will sign three protocols of the treaty. banning nuclear weapons and nuclear tests in the region, where France completed a bitterly-disputed series of six nuclear weapons tests in January.

Palestinian hijacker recaptured

Rome — A Palestmian who escaped from jail in Italy where he was serving a sentence for hijacking the Achille Lauro cruise liner in 1985 has been recaptured in southern Spain. The Italian Justice Ministry said Maguid al-Molqi had been arrested by Italian detectives with Spanish police help in Silva, southern Spain. The US had offered a \$2m reward for his capture.

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Ban on British historian upheld

Munich — A court yesterday upheld an order barring controversial British historian David Irving from entering Germany because of his views on the Holocaust. Mr Irving had appealed against the 1993 decision, imposed after Munich neo-Nazis invited him to appear at an event to mark the 55th anniversary of the Nazis' Kristallnacht pogroms against the Jews. Reuter

Mugabe warns party

Harare - Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe ordered his ruling party to address voters' grievances, just days after being re-elected in a one-man presidential race boycotted by the majority of voters. "I believe now is the time to analyse the people's grievances as they expressed them in both their urban and rural setting, and work out urgent and effective ways of addressing them." he told a meeting of his ZANU-PF party.

Leonardo renovation attacked

Paris - A French art historian claimed Italian restorers had stripped away so much from Leonardo da Vinci's "Last Supper" that they turned his masterpiece into a ghostly image more like a modern painting. Jacques Franck said the team restoring the mural in a Milan church had stripped away all the repaints added since Leonardo painted the work, taking no account of their crucial role in preserving the original.

Athens airport security condemned

Washington — The US said Athens' Hellenikon International Airport did not fully meet internationally established security standards. Chiefly at issue are checkpoint screening procedures, an official said. Standards are set by the International Civil Avia-

Queen to visit Holocaust memorial London - The Queen will visit Umschlagplatz in Warsaw, where

Jews began their journeys to Treblinka concentration camp, during her trip to Poland next week, Buckingham Palace said yesterday. The announcement is a response to complaints from Jewish leaders that she would not be visiting Auschwitz. The Queen flies to Warsaw on Monday

Resistance hero dies

Paris — Claude Bourder, a Resistance hero who survived a Nazi death camp to become an outspoken left-wing journalist criticising racism and French colonial policies, has died. He was 86. In his final years he defended the Bosnian Muslim government and the

When a spade is not a spade Bucharest — An eccentric Transylvanian mayor has come up

with an idea to stop city workers leaning on their shovels instead of working, by making the handles too short. "The handles should be shortened so that they can no longer be used as a leaning point by those who meditate while at work," said Gheorghe

Police end church protest

MARY DEJEVSKY

French police and riot troops mounted a joint operation at dawn yesterday to evict more than 400 Africans, including about 100 children, from a central Paris church where they had taken refuge. They had occupied the church since Monday in a joint action supported by immigrants and equal rights groups to demand the legalisa-

tion of their status in France. Police staked out the church from 2am, then launched their raid shortly before six, smashing down the church door.

The police said the operation had been carried out "humanely and with every effort to avoid violence".

While the majority had agreed to leave the church peacefully, more than 70 refused to go. By 9am they were still in the church precincts, sitting defiantly on the cold, wet ground: Surrounded by dozens of police in full riot gear, they were a bizarrely colourful sight amid the rush of morning com-

muters and shoppers.
A crowd of a hundred or so gathered around the police barriers, some telling the protesters to go back where they had

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come from, others shouting their support. Fierce arguments broke out. "I'm Jewish", said one woman, "and we were like them once. Let them stay." The church of St Ambroise is on the edge of the Marais, a traditionally Jewish section of

the city.

The Africans, mostly from Mali, Mauritius and Senegal, offered eloquent testimony to the confusion of French immigration laws, which sometimes leave spouses and children with different nationality status. By yesterday evening, the protesters had moved on, occupying a nearby gymnasium.



HUGH POPE

The new Turkish government of Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz this week launched a bloodless takeover of Nevruz, the Kurdish spring equinox festival, an occasion the Kurds had made into a day of protest against Turkish oppression from the late

A new jerry-built platform of Turkey's state ideology turned Nevruz into a re-discovered spring festival of all the 150 million people of the Turkic world.

One of the more bizarre re-sults is that the spring festival is now officially encouraged in Turkey while liberal Germany has banned it because celebrations had turned into violent demonstrations by the Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK).

In Turkey, however, the PKK banned and, despite new PKK threats against Turkish tourism and cities, it is militarily weakened after 11 years of fighting in which 18,500 people have died. The establishment is

now debating what to do next. Faint hints from Mr Yilmaz about allowing Kurdish broadcasting, education and free cultural expression have found few echoes. But the meaninglessness of the old state nationalism was underlined by the way the establishment was able to adopt the new Turkishstyle Nevruz without missing a

In the capital, Ankara, President Suleyman Demirel fired a pistol to start the First International Nevruz quartermarathon. The Turkish national lottery had a special Nevruz draw. Pamphlets arguing the long "Turkish" tradition of Nevruz were posted to all and

Meanwhile, down in the Kurdish south-east, Kurds who used to use the day to defy the Turkish authorities - 100 people were killed in Nevruz clashes in 1992 - were encouraged to gather to celebrate in stadiums. Soldiers on checkpoints were ordered to greet wayfarers with the greeting "Happy Nevruz".

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Polls point to revival of fortune for Peres

PATRICK COCKBURN Jerusalem

Four suicide hombs in the past month badly damaged his political standing, but Shimon Peres still stands a good chance of remaining Israel's Prime Minister in the May election. In the latest Gallup poll he has 48 per cent support, compared to 43 per cent for Binyamin Ne-tanyahu, the leader of the right. - prompted by the suicide attacks - in Sharm el-Sheikh.

It is nothing like the lead Mr Peres enjoyed before the first hombs exploded on 25 February, but it is much better than his Labour Party feared.

His fortunes have revived primarily because there have been no more bombs and he has received heavy support from the US, most clearly expressed at the "summit of peacemakers"

A second poll, by the Dahaf minister David Levy, to Centre, shows Mr Peres has a withdraw their candidacies. lead of just 2 per cent, underlining that both Labour and the Likud opposition have everything to fight for during the two-month-long campaign. The Prime Minister has the advantage of incumbency, but Mr Netanyahu has improved his chances by persuading two right-wing rivals. General Rateil Eitan and the former foreign

Both Mr Peres and Mr Netanyahu have stepped towards the political centre in recent weeks in order to win undecided votes. The Prime Minister speaks well of demolishing Palestinian houses, deportations and scaling off the occupied territories. The Likud leader has good things to say of the Oslo accords with the Pales-

tinians, which his party platform win almost all the ultra-opposes. Mr Netanyahu has orthodox Jewish vote and the still not wholly shaken off the damage done to him by the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin in November. But many Israeli voters always distrusted Mr Peres on security and this dis-

the suicide bombs. Israeli polis can be deceptive because the electorate is not uniform. Mr Netanyahu will

trust has increased because of

Prime Minister will be supported by all Israeli Arabs.

To win the battle to be Prime Minister - who is to be directly elected for the first time - the right must have a 10 per cent lead among Jewish voters but, at present, is ahead by just 4 per

The Labour tactics are becoming clear: play up separation but commentators repeatedly

objective of the peace process and emphasise that "Hamas wants Likud to win?. Likud on the other hand will argue that the Oslo accords have pro-

The fighting in Lebanon, which has preoccupied the Israeli media in recent days, is unlikely to win or lose many votes

duced more, not fewer, Israeli

of Israelis and Palestinians as an stress that another Hamas bomb in Israel could finally destroy Labour's chances. It is also true that the radical right has not changed its views, although it has been more discreet since Mr Rabin was murdered, Mr Peres says that the Shin Bet security agency has told him that there are thousands willing to kill him in order to prevent Israel withdrawal from the West

UN suspects Iraq of hiding Scud missiles

CHRISTOPHER BELLAMY Defence Correspondent

Iraq may be hiding up to 16 modified Scud ballistic missiles and their chemical and biological warheads, by shuttling them between military bases. UN investigators now believe.

A year ago, the UN said it had evidence Iraq had destroyed all its remaining Scud missiles. But the UN has changed its view abruptly, following evidence from a senior Iraqi defector that the Iraqis had built some Scuds themselves rather than relying exclusively on imports from the former So-

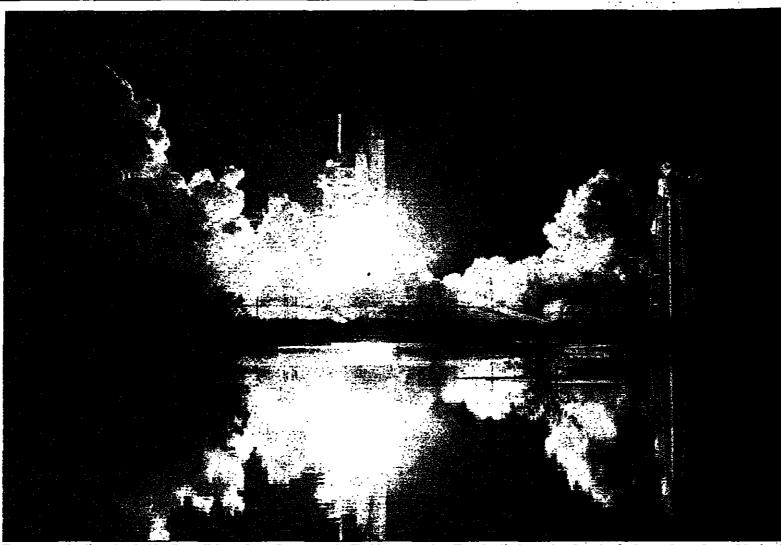
Rolf Ekeus, who chairs the UN Special commission on Iraq told a US Senate Sub-Committee that the UN's new concern about missiles helped explain the Iraqi authoritiesⁱ retors. On five occasions last week they refused to let UN inspectors into government buildings suspected of concealing launchers or documents related to the existence of the mis-

Mr Ekeus's team believes

are probably being concealed on trucks and moved between military sites in order to evade the UN inspectors. The chemical and biological warheads could be kept separately. UN inspectors would need to be delayed for an hour or so to allow the trucks carrying the missiles to

It was not until last August that the UN realised Iraq might be able to build the missiles from scratch, following testimony from Saddam Hussein's fugitive brother-in-law. Hussein Kamel Hassan, the former minister for military industry. who had defected to Jordan but was killed on Saddam's orders after returning last month.

The missiles which the UN suspects the Iraqis are hiding are al-Husseins, an improvement on the original Soud, with a smaller warhead (300kg incent obstruction of UN inspec- stead of 800kg) and a maximum range of 650 km (400 miles). They can carry chemical or biological warheads and, fired from Iraq could hit all of Israel. Rivadh in Saudi Arabia and Tehran, Iraq is believed to have produced at least 50 warheads filled with nerve gas and 25



The space shuttle Atlantis blasting off from Cape Canaveral, in Florida, yesterday. The shuttle later developed a leak causing a loss of hydraulic pressure which could force Nasa to shorten the shuttle's 10-day mission. But it is not thought that the principal aim of the mis the Russian space station Mir and transferring the astronaut Shannon Lucid - due to take place today, is under threat

gunmen kill 11 in attack on ANC

Zulu

Durban (Reuter) — Gunmen massacred 11 people, one a baby, in a political attack in South Africa's Zulu heartland. hours after President Nelson Mandela visited the province.

Police said the child died after its mother was shot dead by up to seven gunmen who. attacked two homesteads on Thursday night, killing another six women and three men. Most were shot at close range.

Police said the attack on the rural settlement, near the KwaZuhi-Natal town of Donnybrook was politically-motivated, as all those killed were ANC supporters.

The massacre took place after Mr Mandela told meetings in the KwaZulu-Natal province, which is ruled by his ANC's main rival, the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party, that blacks were still slaughtering one another there.

The provincial police commissioner, Chris Serfontem, said police were offering a reward of 250,000 rand (£42,000).

Mr Mandela said at one of his meetings on Thursday that there was peace between "Indians, Coloureds [people of mixed race] and whites but it is Africans who are slaughtering each other.

"Many people in the rest of our country still regard us as being backward. What else can they say when you are behaving like animals, when you slaughter each other simply because you want to remain in power?"

from the watchdog Human Rights Committee, said that the launch of the ANC's campaign for the 29 May local elections in the province.
"The leaders of the two po-

litical parties have just had a pre-imbizo [gathering of the Zulu nation] meeting to discuss peace, but this attack shows just how far away peace really is."

Holy rebels strike terror into Uganda's villages

Kony (pronounced coin), a catechist and herbalist, who

DAVID ORR

There are days when the are afraid to practise their tance Army (LRA) have cut

More than 200 civilians, soldiers have been killed in this month, all but six of 30 passengers on a minibus were that it is a day of rest. butchered when LRA rebels

The inhabitants of Lamogi

people of Lamogi, in northern traditional religion for fear of Uganda, are simply too afraid execution by the LRA, a to work the fields. Marauding Christian fundamentalist guer-rebels from the Lord's Resis-rilla group which seeks to overthrow the government of to be at least 2,000 strong, has rule the country according to the Ten Commandments.

Many peasants have stopped rebels and Ugandan army going to the fields on Friday. since the LRA, which is backed recent weeks. In one incident by the Islamic regime in neighbouring Sudan, has decreed Nor do they keep white father, the movement was tak-

ambushed the vehicle as it chickens, or pigs. The LRA en over by her cousin Joseph

drove towards the capital, outlaws the keeping of white Kampala. animals and swine. Many are afraid to ride bicycles, which are also prohibited by the rebels who hack off the feet of cyclists. off ears and lips.

> its origins in the Holy Spirit Alice Lakwena, whose hymnsinging columns advanced to within 80 miles of Kampala

before being defeated by government forces in 1987. After a period under the leadership of Lakwena's

renamed it the Lord's Resistance Army in 1993. "Initially, the rebels seemed execution by the LRA, a Other atrocities include cutting to have some military purpose", mid-February. Several units says Oyat Molondo, a farmer

just behaving like bandits. We'd in the region are being panegotiate with them, as it Defence Force, a militia set up defeated militarily." Attempts at peace talks have

faltered over the refusal of Mr Kony to lay down arms. Now Mr Museveni says he can "finish off" the rebels by mid-April. He has vowed Mr Kony will be dead "within the next few days".

The Ugandan army has has recently received machinery beefed up its troop strength in and weaponry from the United the north since about 500 rebels crossed over the border from bases in southern Sudan in have been moved northwards

Uganda is modernising its 40,000-strong army, the suc-cessor of Mr Museveni's National Resistance Army, which overthrew the regime of Milton Obote a decade ago. Long regarded as poorly main weapon; rebel prisoners in equipped and disorganised, it Gulu describe how they would

nut oil as protection against. States, China, South Africa, as were supposed to turn into grenades when thrown at the The government claims its

forces have successfully enthat Mr Kony has been wounded. But the LRA has repeatedly the army is unprepared. Using children kidnapped from Ugandan villages as porters, the rebels have proved highly mobile. They have also increased their firepower since their early days, when witchcraft was the

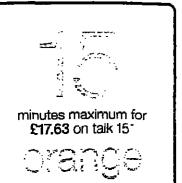
main weapon: rebel prisoners in

and carrying heavy weapons, which Uganda says are provided by Sudan. Anti-tank rocket launchers, machine guns and anti-personnel mines captured by the Ugandan army suggest Khartoum backs the insurgency.

While the LRA is unlikely to overthrow Mr Museveni, it may severely disrupt presidential and parliamentary elections planned for May and June.

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£10,000 - £24,999	6.80	5.10	£25,000 - £49,999	4.70	3.53
12,500 - 49,999	6.00	4,50			
£50 - £2,499	0.50	0.38	£10,000 - £24,999	3.85	1.89
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150 - 52,499	0.50	0.38	£50,000 - £99,999	4.70	3.53
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POSTAL 90 Monthly			\$50,000 or more	4.60	3.45
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	3_50	263	£500 - £1,999	1.60	1.95
<u>11 Ga) - 29,999</u> £90 - 22,499	0.50	0.38	£90 - £499	0.50	0.38

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America consumed by The Big Smoke

A thousand people smoking cigars in an unventilated underground ballroom might not be everyone's idea of how to raise funds for cancer research. But this is America.

The venue was a power hotel in downtown Washington. The occasion, billed as "The Big Smoke", was a celebration of opulence masquerading as a charity convention for cigar connoisseurs. The spectacle was the caricature of Washington imagined by Pat Buchanan's pitchfork-wielding class war-

Fat cats in double-breasted suits - corporate lobbyists. lawyers, PR consultants and politicians - quaffed cognacs. picked at petits fours, bantered about weighty affairs of state, puffing - heads held high at aunty angles - on five-and-ahalf-inch, hand-rolled Dominican Montecristos. But they weren't there just to be seen. They had paid \$150 a head to get in and, this being the US, they had to have something to do. So they shopped.

The room, carpeted and chandeliered, had been converted into a high-fashion market place. Rows of elegantly draped stalls offered a variety of extravagant accessories, from gold watches to leather luggage, to champagnes and all shapes and sizes of cigar. Served up as part of the entertainment were a couple of dozen women, troohy babes out of a Mercedes Benz commercial. They posed, wickedly elegant, in stiletto heels, sucking cigarillos, flicking ash off ample decollètages.

Cigars have become such a fashion craze in America in the last couple of years that demand, according to frustrated, salesmen, is far outstripping The world's most health-conscious nation has taken to cigars, writes John Carlin in Washington

supply. Anybody who wants to cigar is a quality thing to put in seen smoking a cigar. New cigar clubs open up and down the US every day. Clgar bars in Washington, New York, Chica-go and Miami have waiters on hand specially trained to advise customers on what kind of cig-ar goes best with what meal.

be anybody these days must be your mouth, like fine wine and good food,"

Mr Shanken is the idol of the American cigar industry. Oscar Boruchin, a Cuban-American distributor from Miami, said that without Cigar Aficionado the boom would never have happened. When the magazine

the Ferrari, the Rolex, the beau-

the images that adorn the ad-

convey a sense that cigar-smok-

tiful women.

It goes with the Ferrari, the Rolex, the beautiful women'

(The general rule is a light cigar with fish, strong with red

The Big Smoke has already acquired the status of a tradition. The inaugural bash was held in New York three years ago. Since then, other big cities have followed suit. The Washington bash was the first of nine events planned this year by the sponsor, Cigar Aficionado

The magazine's publisher, Marvin Shanken, said that when he put out his first issue in the Autumn of 1992 he had hoped for a circulation of maybe 20,000. "It was a labour of love. I expected to lose money. And now look: for our latest issue we've done a print run of 350,000." How did he account for his success, for this sudden fascination with cigars? "Simple," Mr Shanken said. "It's enjoyable. It turns them on. It's a status symbol. Cigars convey an image of tradition, wealth, sophistication, the good life. A

eigars with a sensual mystique. Thus the most recent issue features the results of 100 blind eigar tastings. One cigar has "a rich, earthy [flavour] with a solid core of nuts and spices and a very smooth balance"; another is "complex and medium-bodied", possessing "hints of chocolate" and "flavours of dried orange peel"; yet another is "toasty" with

'some leather and floral notes". Lost among these rhapsodies is any sense that cigar-smoking might speed one towards an early death. Mr Boruchin and other cigar merchants at the Washington fair were adamant that the health risks were minimal, "Unlike cigarettes, cigars are not habit-forming: you don't inhale; you smoke them in moderation." Maybe, but all came out, suddenly cigar smok-ing came out of the closet. those of us who attended the Marvin Shanken legitimised it. Big Smoke might make an in-The image changed. A cigar means success. It goes with teresting case study on the effects of passive smoking.

So how to reconcile Americans' obsessiveness with health Ferraris, Rolexes and beauwith the cult of the cigar? Until a cancer cure is found, Big tiful women are coincidentally Smoking promises to be as iuvertisements in Cigar Aficionacrative for the medical profesdo. The articles contrive both to sion as for the cigar industry. A doctor present as a nonsmoking observer at the cigaring is what the rich and famous do (Jack Nicholson appeared fest, asked for his opinion, replied with a smile and a cheroot in hand on one of last shrug: "It's good for business."

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Crowds gather to watch the undulating serpent of light that appears on the north (left) side of the Mayan pyramid of El Castillo, in Chiche Itza, Yucatan, Mexico. The phenomenon marks the spring equinox and is held to represent the Photograph: Heriberto Rodriguez/Reuter Mayan god Kukulkam ('Feathered Serpent') descending to earth

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Amended Investment and Savings Rates. Effective from 23rd March, 1996.

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£20,000	3.35%	_	2.68%						
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£2,500	2.70% -		2.15%						
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£250	0.35%		0.28%						
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£50,000+	3.57%	3.60%	- 2.86%						
£20,000	3.32%	3.35%	2.66%						
£10,000	3.17%	3.20%	2.54%						
£5,000	2.88%	2.90%	2.30%						
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£500	2.48%	2.50%	1.98%						
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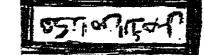
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Rob Will, **CJD Surveillance** Unit

"My opinion has evolved enormously in two to three weeks"



John Pattison, **BSE** advisory committee

'It could be tens of thousands of cases and cumulatively it could be hundreds of thousands'



Kenneth Calman, **Chief Medical** Officer

Told Dorrell the grim news before going off to be knighted by the Queen

A discovery by a Scots doctor three weeks ago has set off one of the worst health crises this country has faced. An Independent investigation reveals how the nation's BSE nightmare came true

Beefgate

This is the week a conscientious Calvinist Scots doctor destroyed the British

beef industry.
Dr Rob Will has made the scientific study of Creuztfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD) his life's work. Since its inception in 1990, he has headed the Creutfieldt-Jakob Disease surveillance unit. It compiles detailed information on everyone in Britain who might have been suffering from CJD, to

check for a link with "mad cow disease". Three weeks ago he believed BSE pre-sented "a remote theoretical risk" to people. Now he has changed his mind: as a result the beef industry faces ruin.

It was in the middle of February that Dr Will began to have suspicions that his earlier judgement was wrong. "It's not a flash of light. You build up evidence and then you reach a critical point where you say This is convincing. My opinion has evolved enormously in the past two to three weeks," he explained.

On 8 December last year, in a long arti-cle in this newspaper, he wrote: "I do not believe it is reasonable to conclude that there is a significant risk from eating beef". This weekend he reflected: "I was unaware when I wrote the article of the 10 new patients with a new form of CJD for which it is only logical to consider a possible link with BSE. The evidence is really that recent."

Some of the patients with this distinctive, aggressive form of CJD are still alive. The

majority of those who have died did so in the early months of this year, although there was one early case in 1994. When the cases emerged three things alerted Dr Will and his colleagues at the CJD unit at the Westem General Hospital in Edinburgh. First, the cases were among relatively young people; most victims of CJD are old. Second, their brain tissue displayed a distinctive disease pattern closer to the damage inflicted on a cow's brain by BSE than the damage normal CID inflicts on humans. Third, these cases took 13 months to die rather than the

Dr Will's team set about their painstaking analysis. "We need full neuropathological information and genotype analysis. Post-mortems take a long time," Dr Will said. That was not enough, however. To rule out a genetic link or the possibility that the disease was related to the dead person's the victims were young. But they checked lifestyle, members of the unit travelled the with other cases involving young people country in the early weeks of the year to interview still grief-stricken relatives.

So it was that after an intense burst of scientific inquiry in February Dr Will and his colleague Dr James Ironside, who had



A rare mess: the country's £500m beef export industry is at stake, but this is 'one of the most difficult health issues we have ever faced'

Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee on Friday 8 March.

The 13-strong committee normally meets at a weekend, because its members, the country's leading experts in BSE and CJD, have busy research and clinical schedules. A senior member of the committe recalls that it met in sombre mood. "Ironside and Will said that at first they had thought the cases were linked only because pathologies so they had to decide it was something new. Everyone around the table feared that it was related to BSE.

"We were all a bit glum. I mean, it had conducted the pathological examinations of the brain tissue, decided they had to present their evidence to the Government's getting the full analysis in such a short time.

They have worked very hard."

It was after this meeting that Whitehall's nightmare began. Professor Sir John Pattison, the SEAC chairman, alerted Sir Kenneth Calman, the Chief Medical Officer who tipped off his boss Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary. Pattison's team were told to reconvene the following Saturday, 16 March, to draw up recommendations about what should be done.

A committee member remembered that tense meeting: "We did consider requesting the destruction of the entire national herd. We considered the full spectrum of responses, including saying that the measures then in place were sufficient too. But we felt that there was a need to do more." It also explored the possibility that BSE might have been passed to other farm ani-mals and whether it might be passed from

them to people. On Monday Calman met Dorrell to tell him the grim news that the preliminary findings had been confirmed: a new strain of CJD had been found and the most likely explanation was BSE.

Dorrell could have pressed the panic button but one of those close to him explained: "He's a pretty cool guy and he reacted coolly. He knows there is a fine line between openness and panic. But he wanted it out in the open as soon as possible.

As a precaution, his press office had ordered the Department of Health's advertising agency. Ogiky and Mather, to book space for an announcement in the morning newspapers on Thursday, to calm fears. There would also be a help line to stop the public jamming the Government's switch-

On Tuesday, Ogilvy and Mather execu-

tives came into the department to meet the head of the press office, Romilla Christopherson, at one time deputy to Bernard Ingham at Number Ten when Margaret Thatcher was in office.

It was the call to Ogilvy and Mather that led to the first leak of the story which appeared in Campaign, the advertising industry trade magazine. Its issue published at the start of the week said the agency had been called in to do an emergency campaign to calm public fears about "mad cow disease" after a Dorrell announcement.

As the Ogilvy and Mather team were closeted with Christopherson, SEAC had reconvened elsewhere in the Health Department's offices in Whitehall, Some of its members were in Paris; an open telephone line was set up for them to participate in the discussion.

By a strange coincidence, Calman was also due to visit Buckingham Palace to be knighted by the Queen. The Chief Medical Officer briefed Dorrell in his private office wearing a morning suit before rushing to the Palace. He made it with minutes to spare. The Prime Minister was briefed by Dorrell and Douglas Hogg, the agri-culture minister, in the course of the day. They agreed that they had to make a pub-

lic statement the following day.

SEAC's debate went on till midnight.

They finalised their recommendations. early on Wednesday morning. The exhausted committee members decided to recommend that carcasses from cattle aged over 30 months should be deboned in specially licensed and supervised plants. that trimmings be kept out of the food chain; and that the use of meat and bonemeal from any mammals be banned from feed for any farm animals - a measure to stop BSE spreading to pigs or chickens. But as the committee was at work, so was

the Daily Mirror, where a diligent journalist had picked up the Campaign story. The Daily Mirror splashed it across its front page on Wednesday morning as Dorrell pre-pared to brief a cabinet meeting called to

disuess election strategy.

Ministers spent an hour disuessing the findings and the planned advertising campaign, which was to carry an assurance from the Chief Medical Officer that he would still eat beef as part of a balanced diet. They ordered it to be dropped. "The ads were killed five minutes before the button was pressed," said an advertising

Dorrell went on to make his fateful statement to the Commons, before going on to address a hastily arranged press conference. He was sombre, almost contrite. But the nightmare is not over. SEAC had not been able to give him a clear view on whether children could be at higher risk of contracting the new strain. So this weekend the SEAC team will meet again and Dorrell has another statement to make on Monday to the House. It could be one of the worst moments a health secretary has had to face since the Thalidomide scandal.

An SEAC member explained: "One of the senior people we presented the findings to said it's one of the most difficult health issues this country has ever faced. I think we'll probably know in the next six to 12 months: if we don't see too many new cases then it could be all right. When I look at the papers I feel 'My God, we've cost the country a £500m export industry'. I just wish I could crawl into a hole. But we're charged with making the decisions, and so

Jo Brand's week

This week is the 50th anniversary of Mind, the mental health charity, and recent research conducted by Mind itself shows that the number of people using mental health services is rising fairly rapidly. Mind has made a great contribution to easing the stigma felt by people who have mental health problems. The days are gone when you could pay your money and take a walk round your local asylum to have a look at all the mad people, but attitudes haven't changed that much. The general public still see those with mental health problems as dangerous objects, instead of people.

In my experience, most of those who are ill, even if they have a debilitating illness, have a wonderful logic to what they do. I remember a friend of mine, who was also a psychiatric nurse, telling me about a man she knew who had suffered from chronic schizophrenia, coming out of

she knew who had suffered from chronic schizophrenia, coming out of bospital and getting a job as a postman. He was a little nervous on his first day but determined to do the job. He picked up his sack of mail, went to the nearest postbox and shoved the whole lot in. He then went home and watched telly. Now that's what I call sensible.

Florence Nightingale continues. Not only did none of the soldiers under her care want her to be in Scutari, but it now seems she knocked back * some bromide, which is a drug given to soldiers to curb their sexual appetite. After taking the drug, she reports, she was so tired. she couldn't do anything. Well, at least we know it works. Perhaps we should start doling it out to to men at work and give some women a break from the modern plague of office sexual

The never-ending sage of poor old

Poor old Frank Bruno. I have to confess I did stay up and watch the terrible battering that he got from Mike Tyson last week. All that completely over-the-top build-up for such a quick end. Mr Tyson seems somewhat confused at the moment. He has converted to Islam and yet he sports a huge tattoo of Mao Tse-tung on his arm, a man who certainly never supported religion of any kind. Still, all these things pale into insignificance, I suppose, when you are faced with the cannon ball that is Mike Tyson's fist. If that fight wasn't an advertisement for stopping people battering each other's brains into tomorrow, I don't know what was.

Apparently, four out of five people in this country can't understand the labels on bottles of suntan lotion. I find that difficult to believe. They're hardly on the level of Einstein's Theory of Relativity, are they? It's easier to believe that people choose to ignore them. After all, mad dogs and Englishmen and all that. What a great summer it's going to be this year. Thousands of roasting



facing a drought as it is, because of the negligence of the privatised water authorities. I wouldn't be surprised if

a plague of locusts finishes us all off.

Bosses in the supplies division of the NHS must be very pleased they are going to get whacking great payoffs when their jobs are axed, as yet another reorganisation goes ahead. Pm sure if someone had time to sit down and actually work out the amount of money that has been wasted in these constant

reorganisations in the administration of the NHS, it would amount to a staggering sum. It would also be easier to swallow if anyone felt that the executives at the top of the NHS were actually doing a good job – but they're not. The experience of most people is that the whole service is falling apart because the goodwill of nurses and doctors has been exploited beyond belief. As a spokesman said, "There are always osts when you shed jobs." Yes, mate, but the costs are being carried by the people that can least afford it ... ordinary people who desc decent healthcare and not the

And if a plague of locusts doesn't finish us all off, tuberculosis may well do. This disease, which a lot of us associate with a swooning Emily Bronte or Dickensian slums, is making a big come-back. It's mainly a

shambles we've got at the moment

disease associated with poverty and demonstrates the gap that is opening up between the rich and poor. Certain new strains of TB are resistant to current antibiotics, so perhaps money needs to be put into research to stamp it out once and for all. That's if there's any money left after the NHS bosses have grabbed it.

So there's now a Supermodel Sindy range. Must rush out and buy one. Apparently there have been problems in the design of the dolls, particularly as far as Naomi Campbell is concerned. She sent one prototype back because the head was too big. (Are you sure?). How nice for little girls to have yet another set of dolls whose measurements most of them will never be able to live up to. Claudia Schiffer didn't like the colour of the hair on bers, but seems perfectly happy to accept the fact that it's got a ridiculous, fatuous expression on its face. These dolls are plastic and empty headed and have nothing to say for themselves. Not so



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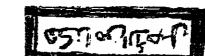
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Living on the ledge: the random risk society

Derhaps it was those hamburgers you ate in 1987.

But then a few hamburgers you ate in 1987. But then a few hamburgers might not be enough. But how many plates of spaghetti holognese did you eat in the late Eighties? Fifty, 100, 200? How much do you need to eat to catch it? And anyway, the scientists, their authority rapidly fading, might have not it wrong. Maybe scrapic is not the source of BSE. Perhaps it's organo-phosphates. That might mean BSE is still rampant, so beef you cat now might carry a risk of giving you the deadly Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease.

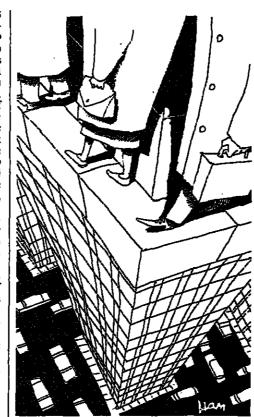
But how does the risk of catching CJD compure with other risks that besiege us every day? It's so difficult to know how much to worry. The risk of dying from CJD is probably less than the risk of dving from smoking 10 cigarettes a day (one in 200) but more of a risk than being hit by lightning (one in 10 million). But are you at more or less of a risk from CJD than from dying of influenza (one in 5.000) an accident of the road (one in 8,000) or while playing soccer (one in 25,000)? Who knows? Certainly not the scientists. The best guess that John Pattison, head of the Government's advisory committee on BSE, could offer us was that there may in future be hardly any more CJD deaths linked to BSE - or there could be an epidemic.

This week, everyone is facing an unknown and barely calculable new risk of dving. Risk has become an inescapable part of our lives. There was a time when a risk was something you indulged in for a bit of excitement, a flutter on the side. A punt on the Grand National, a spin of the wheel - it was all meant to add a bit of spice to an otherwise orderly and predictable life. Even

when Mrs Thatcher preached to us that risk was something we could choose to take. In the insecure, uncertain Nincties, most of life seems to have become a flutter. We no longer choose to take risks; we have them thrust upon us. This week, our lives have become an experiment inflicted upon us by the beef industry, with absolutely nobody in charge of the laboratory. The most ordinary of decisions - which cut of meat should one buy - has become laced with life and death chance. Our society seems to have become riddled with random risks. Calculating and managing risks has become one of our main preoccupations. That used to be a specialist job for actuaries, insurers and scientists. Now we all have to engage in it, with whatever rusty tools we can lay our hands on - sometimes the calculator, sometimes the astrology columns.

The accelerating rate of economic change driven on by global competition has made life for virtually everyone more insecure than it used to he. Even relatively young, highly qualified grad-uates face the risk that their skills may become outmoded before they realise it. Few employers protect their employees against the risks of redundancy. Workers have to bear those risks themselves: more middle-class people are calculating how to insure themselves against the insecurity of their income.

Privatisation and constraints upon public spending are another source of higher risk for individuals. In the post-war period, the state took responsibility for organising collective insurance against many risks - ill health, bouts of unemployment, poverty in old age. Now, increasingly,



it's down to individuals to plan their personal health and pension plans; to calculate the risks for themselves and make their own decisions about how much to put by.
Yet the source of the most troubling new risks

we face is something most of us would regard as unequivocally beneficial - our expanding knowledge. It is partly because we know more about the brain that we now know that people in a persis-tent vegetative state may be conscious and so should not have their life-support machines turned off. As scientific knowledge opens up new opportunities for us, it also makes the world more complex and unknowable, at least by any one individual. For instance, the technology now used to fly a plane across the Atlantic is probably beyond the understanding of any one person. As a result, the risk of a plane crash becomes more difficult to calculate. As technology races ahead, we are left behind panting with ignorance, increasingly unable to understand or control the machines we depend upon and so less able to calculate the consequences of their going wrong. Environmental science has encouraged us to be less parochial and short-term in our thinking. We now worry about the consequences of our actions on future generations in far-flung places. But this admirable long-termism also makes it more difficult to calculate the risks of our decisions. What is the risk that your grandchildren's environment will suffer if you use that aerosol or your car too much?

The problem this leaves us with is not just one of calculating risks but taking responsibility for them. Take the grounding of the Sea Empress as an example - who among the owner, the agents, the charterers, the crew, the pilot and the har-bour master should have taken responsibility for making sure it did not run aground? How should a business, a worker and the state share the cost of insuring against the risks of unemployment in the global market? When new risks such as Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease arise, we blame politicate and disease arise, we blame politicate and disease arise. cians and demand they take action, but which of us seriously believes the hapless Stephen Dorrell is responsible for this crisis, other than in a purely totemic way? Politicians might pick up the can-but it hardly gets us anywhere. This week, the limited authority of scientists has also been exposed. Once they were confident BSE was not linked to CJD. Now they are not so sure. But for all their expertise, they cannot tell us how big the risk is or what we should do to guard against it.

What we need to cope better with life in a riskprone society are information and openness from government and business so we know more about the risks we face, wider education to allow us to judge risks better and new mechanisms for sharing risks which overcome the drawbacks of both the traditional welfare state and private insurance markets. Perhaps the most important mechanism for ensuring ordinary citizens do not shoulder all the risks is consumer power to hold government and business to account for their actions.

The social thinker Professor Ulrich Beck of Munich University, author of a best-selling book in Germany called The Risk Society and a keynote speaker at an Institute of Public Policy research conference next week, has coined a term for the state we are in - organised irresponsibility. This week, that sounds all too accurate.

■ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ■

BSE: doubts over relevance of the link with scrapie

BSE and CID has been characterised by a lack of clear. statements of the uncertain basis on which most strategy decisions have been made.

Much strategy has been based on the assumption that BSE was derived from scrapic. an encephalopathy of sheep caused by "prion" infective agents. It was assumed that its properties have been maintained in cattle. The evidence that scrame was the source of BSE is essentially that it is the only common form of prion disease in the food chain. However, any species with a prion gene (ie all known mammals) can mutate to produce an inherited encephalopathy and this would potentially be infec- amounts of infective agent, as tive (this is true of the muta- measured by animal infection Cattle could themselves have numbers of animals are used in been the source of the infection these experiments, but the riving a new disease with nospecies barrier into cows and a ducting on the human popula- worth these risks?

debatable situation for humans. Despite these doubts over the relevance of scrapie, much was based on the fact that the agent would be scrapic-like. It was argued that, like scrapie, it would be unlikely to cross the

scrapic, ie that there would be vertical transmission (mother to calf) or horizontal transmission (between unrelated cattle), the normal mode of transmission of scrapic. Presumably this was ignored in order to argue against an expensive slaughter policy in infected herds. In terms of a proposed slaughter policy, it is imperative to note that pasture that has carried infected sheep remains infective for some years

Slaughter alone does not elimi-

nate scrapie. The arguments about the effieacy of removing offal and hence climinating the risk of transmission are based on the fact that muscle and milk contain very low tion involves 60 million people. and it is not at all clear what level of disease low amounts of infectious agent would produce in this

target population.
While infected carde are killed Sir: Is the Government I see and burnt, this is only when they running to the European Comis like the difference between France banning British beef that the pattern of intection. Aids and HIV infection - the the same Government which

Sir: Until now the debate on would be similar to that of asymptomatic phase provides the public health problem. Professor HUGH WOODLAND

Department of Biological Sciences University of Warwick

Sir: Beef sales will surely plummet even further this weekend as people heed the warnings over mad cow disease. But those who are truly concerned with keeping their family healthy would do better to after the sheep are removed, avoid the meat aiste all

together.

Meat eating has been conclusively linked with the nation's top killers - heart disease, stroke and certain forms of cancer. Ninety-five per cent of all food poisoning is caused by animal products, with salmonella, campylobacter, and tions causing human CJD), experiments, Relatively low e-coli bacteria killing hundreds of Britons every year. With very low fat content and tasty vegetarian food so widely "experiment" we have been con- — available, is eating meat really

TONI VERNELLI People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals London NW1

show recognisable symptoms. It mission to complain about

not so long ago was protesting so viciously about the Euro-

pean Court of Justice? Perhaps if Britain had kept its mouth shut more and accepted the rough with the smooth, we would not now be witnessing our European part-ners gleefully taking revenge for so many years of insults. slights and disruptive behaviour from Westminster and beyond. DAVID LIUNGGREN London W1

Sir: With the recurring concern over the quality of beef and beef meat by-products and whether they are safe to eat, this is an ideal time to sit back, look at what we cat and try new dishes. May I recommend venison as

a replacement for beef. It is an extremely healthy meat with extremely tasty.

G A YOUNG Newbury, Berkshire

Sir: Now that the Government has been forced into the open about CJD, can we have honesty about another mad government disease, the effects, on users, of organophosphate

HUGH MACKIE Waterlooville, Hampshire

'Teach' marriage in schools

Sir: In her column (20 March), report health and self-worth Polly Toynbee applauds divorce as "our century's great liberator". The only problem she sees with the staggering 158,000 divorces in 1994 is that economically, we have made no adaptation to divorce.

The solution, she suggests, is to create "a social and economic system that makes it possible for mothers both to earn and care for their children". Surely this is a contradiction in terms. No matter how much a mother could earn, someone else would be caring for her children. While the majority of child-minders are kind, loving individuals, can they really be expected to feel the same sense of responsibil-ity for a child's emotional, intellectual and spiritual development as the parents?

In Britain today, 25 per cent of all children experience their parents' divorce before they are 16 years old. Research from Exeter University found that children from "re-ordered" families (those whose families had suffered separation and divorce) were twice as likely to

problems, three times more likely to have school-work and social life difficulties, and four times more likely to have behavioural problems.

The interviewers found that children can cope better with their parents fighting and even with the death of a parent than they can with a parent leaving. In other words, in general, as far as children are concerned, a bad marriage is better than a

good divorce. Surely, the solution is not to make divorce "easier" through the Family Law Bill, but to invest in marriage. Marriage education should form part of the curriculum for our schools. We need to focus on reconciliation rather than mediation by providing more funding for counselling for struggling

marriages. The married couples tax allowance, now worth 13.30 per week less to hasic-rate taxpayers in hard cash than it was two years ago, should be substantially increased.

DOROTHY ADAM

Confusion over PVS and brain death

patients do not.

Sir: I have been following the unaided and display at least debate on persistent vegeta-tive state (leading article, 18 March).

As a nurse with 15 years experience of working in intensive care I feel it is extremely important to differentiate between brain death and PVS. In brain death there are no reflexes present and the patient does not breathe when off a ventilator despite raising the blood CO2 in an attempt to stimulate respiration. Brain death tests follow strict criteria and are taken twice, 24 hours apart, by separate consultants.

To confuse the two states is to cause extreme distress to relatives who may feel they should not have allowed treatment to be withdrawn following brain death, and also results in braindead patients remaining on ventilators until all body systems fail and also a fall-off in the availability of organs for donation, which is so valuable and often a comfort to bereaved relatives.

NEDA M. DESMOND Eastbourne, Sussex

PVS patients can breathe

ITN's coverage

of Dunblane Sir: Those who read Meg Carter's article "Public interest

versus private grief" (19 March) might well have gained the impression that Lord Wakeham and Superintendent Louis Munn were critical of ITN's coverage of the Dunblane tragedy. This is certainly not the case.

Both would, in fact, have asserted that ITN's coverage was responsible and sensitive. Furthermore, Meg Carter suggests that TV approached relatives for "the almost instant TV interviews with the bereaved". That is, quite simply, not true. It would be con-trary to our guidelines, which were endorsed rigorously throughout the time of the tragedy. I know the BBC and Sky adopted the same

approach. It should also be pointed out that the article was constructed of quotes which were taken from a variety of sources but not from speaking directly to either Lord Wakcham, Supt Munn or myself.

Editor in Chief, ITN London WC1

Sir: Robert Cowan's protest (20 March) encourages me to air my pet musical irritation - the now routine nickname Elvira Madigan attached to Mozart's 21st piano concerto. Classic FM never fails to mention it and even Radio 3 is not immune. Is it too late to say that there

Elvira who?

is now a whole generation to whom the film Eivira Madigan means nothing? Like being told that another popular piece was once the signature tune for Listen With Mother - or should it now be Grandmother? MARTIN SHAW Leicester

Honest greed

Sir: Your leader (19 March) criticises the re-formed Sex Pistols for being "happy to exploit commericul opportunism", some thing you say they "led a generation to believe they disdained".

In fact the band's original songs always celebrated their ability to make "cash from chaos". They called their 1979 film *The Great Rock and Roll* Swindle and it featured the runnning motif of a cash register clocking up how much they were earning from their inability to string two chords together. The Sex Pistols never claimed to be less money-grabbing than those that came before, simply more honest.

Babar's

Never mind your D'Arcys and Biggleses; if there is any fictional character that I envy, it is Babar the Elephant. In his adventures, he is rescued from

a circus by an older woman who buys him clothes, a nice sports car, and expedites his escape to a picturesque part of Africa. There he becomes king of all the Elephants, defeating the Rhinoceroses in battle by the simple ruse of painting eyes on his followers' bottoms, thus scaring his enemies away.

cess as an overweight toyboy or pro-Babar. My fascination is with Bahar the social engineer. the constructor of a New Order. On the banks of a flowing river. he built the garden city of Celesteville, complete with public park, a palace of culture and hospital - all with its own town

council. Unfortunately, the Babar their number, bingo, he books neglect to inform students becomes infallible. The only basic reflexes, eg pupil reaction to a bright light; brain dead of political science which system of election the progressive pachy-derm installed. But this week we may have had a glimpse of what it might have been. Imagine Celesteville divided into, say, 18 constituencies, each with five councillors. Different parties (representing the well-ordered strata of elephant society - arti-sans, manual labourers, bottompainters, etc) would stand, and electors would make a single selection. Finally, to ensure minority groups (such as mon-keys and flamingoes) are represented, each of the 10 parties with the most votes would get an extra two councillors.

This is, of course, the system proposed by John Major on Thursday for the election of a "peace forum" in Northern Ireland, and it looks good to me. True, unlike Celesteville council, the forum does not have a clear role. Some of its members will take part in talks leading to an eventual settlement, and many will not. But with truly Babar-ian wisdom, the Government recognises that they can play a role by meeting from time to time, and having a chat.

About things.
Unaccountably, the jowly patriarchs of Ulster politics have not taken to the idea. It is

complicated, they complain. But surely, no system of itself guar-

antees wise choice. One example will suffice. Few nations are more committed to (a) democracy and (b) Europe, than the Greeks, who invented both. Yet at the last (nicely proportionate) elections to the European Parliament, they voted for large-boned chanteuse Nana Mouskouri to represent them at Strasbourg, despite the fact that she admitted that she was only standing as a favour to a friend, But it isn't for his early suc- and would never attend. "Personally, I have no interest in, or said.

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Conversely, are there many electoral processes as historically successful as that which selects a new pope - 120 cardinals gather in the Sistine Chapel, God guides them, they cast secret ballots, and when there is a two-thirds majority for one of reforms in 2,000 years have been one to prevent bribery, and another, last month, to force cardinals to bring doctors' cer-tificates with them (presumably to prevent God from making an expensive error). "Dottore Schmelz begs to reassure The Almighty that Cardinal Spinotti will not soon be knocking at his

This proves that what is important is not the elegance of the system but the outcome. And I helieve that the same will be true in Ulster, where the plus-Babariste aspect of the Major proposal means that the Natural w Party-the smiling devotees who brought us you'c flying and other paths to enlightenment -will almost certainly be repre-

sented at the forum.

To appreciate the significance of this, cast your mind forward. The forum is in session, Paisley in the middle of a violent diatribe. Hume halfway out of the door. Trimble puce and trembling. Jowls are wobbling. Then, from the Natural Law corner, comes the soothing hum of a mantra. The room goes quiet, and Gerry Adams and Patrick Mayhew, legs tucked beneath them, levitate above the heads of the forum. slowly float toward each other and embrace in mid-air.

QUOTE UNQUOTE

This is a dog's breakfast. But it is probably the only dog's breakfast on offer and it may well be the best dog's breakfast possible given the position the Government found itself in - Paddy Ashdown. Liberal Democrat leader, on the Ulster poll scheduled for May 30

It does not seem to require any extra, sophisticated electronic equipment to achieve what can already be done by switching the set off - Harry Greenway, Conservative MP, expressing doubts about the proposed V-chip in televisions

This is one of the most disgraceful episodes in this country's history and I want a full inquity into the Government's conduct and the way it has used and misused scientific advisers - Professor Richard Lacey, microbiologist, accusing the Government of risking public health over BSE in order to protect the farming community

Never before have diseased ruminants (sheep) been fed to other ruminants (cows) and then fed to humans. We have interfered with the whole process of nature and what is now happening is one of our worst nightmares - Tim Lang food policy professor, Thames Valley University, on mad cow disease Ouiet! I'm trying to trave!! - Maureen Lipman, who used to act
PAUL MOSS in BT commercials, incensed by constant chattering on mobile
London W11 phones by her fellow passengers on a train

A code called human rights Sir: Andrew Marr (19 March)

suggests there exists a code which abhors homophobia and rejects religious teachings on hell and sin but which "we don't yet have a word for". The name he is searching for is the code of human rights Born in the Enlightenment, it

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came of age after the horrors of the Second World War. Then, the international community set out to establish a set of secular ethics in the form of international instruments which bind all states that ratify them. Often misunderstood as no more than a vehicle for protecting individuals from abuse of power by governments, these instruments are an attempt to influence the moral climate of society as a whole (see, for example, the preamble to the UN's International Covenants on Civil and Political and Economic, Social and Cultural Rights), Perhaps it is the failure of successive governments to incorporate these standards into our law or to require them to be taught in schools that accounts for our ignorance of them.

FRANCESCA KLUG Policy Consultant

Off the rails

Sir: It is not true that the sale of Railtrack cannot be prevented (leading article, 20) March). For it to be sold there will have to be buyers, and who will come forward if they risk forfeiting their shares at the issue price in exchange for longterm low-interest bonds?

It is not just a question of losing a bit more of the lamily siiver, for this privatisation would destroy all possibility of a coherent transport policy. Trains on privately owned rails will never compete with cars on publicly tunded roads.

P J STEWART



Giant tortoise in the Galapagos

Support for the Galapagos Islands

Hyukatake, Charles Arthur comet Halley show us that the

asserted that comets are material of comets is far more

Sir: Your article "A hit squad to save Darwin's paradise isles" (11 March) did an excellent job in appraising your readers of some of the very serious threats to the biodiversity of the Galapagos Islands, but at the same time it gave a misleading impression of the role of the Galapagos Conservation Trust. downplayed the role of the Galapagos National Park and omitted all mention of the Charles Darwin Foundation.
The Galapagos National Park
has done an excellent job over

Comets are now

Sir: In relation to a brief new

addition to the night sky, comet

more exotic

the past 20 years to ensure the preservation of the Galapagos, it has been fighting an uphill battle and it has lacked both resources and political support.
All conservation pro-

grammes in Galapagos are car-ried out by the National Park Service with the help and support of the Charles Darwin Research Station, which was set up in 1900 to advise the Ecuadorian government on the conservation of this most important of all national parks. The Galapagos Conserva-

and rocks" (19 March).

Though this view was once

held by the majority of scien-

tists, it is now known to be erro-

neous. For new explorations of

pelago. We will not, as the article implies, be making unilateral decisions, the main work

Chairman, Galapagos Conservation Trust Shaftesbury, Dorset "Irozen bodies of gas, liquid

tion Trust has been set up in the

UK to help and support the Galapagos National Park and

the Charles Darwin Research

Station by raising awareness of

and funds for the preservation

of this truly wonderful archi-

and decisions will be for the Galapagos National Park to make with our full support and JULIAN FITTER

exotic than Mr Arthur makes out. Some 30 per cent of the comet was found to be made up of extremely complex organic chemicals - the stuff of life

K WICKRAMASINGHE

RICHARD TAIT

Letters should be addressed to Letters to the Editor, The Independent. One Canada Square. Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL (Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk) and include a daytime telephone number. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. We regret we are unable to acknowledge unpublished letters. Diffor: Charles Wilson ASSUTES) Deffore Charles Leadheater view store entropy Colin Heghes section two entropy Simon Kelner exceptive new lotton: Michael Williams Sout Liveok, Richard Bolledge, newspace requirement of marked of directors, Liam Healy (charman), Lord Borne, Juna Lins Cebrian, Ben Bradlee, Javier Diez de Poloneo, Brendan Hopkins, David Montgomery, Andreas Whitiam Smith ADVERTING DIRECTOR Jeremy Reed

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Cushioned for months by the simple fact that he was not Virginia, Stephen Dorrell's lengthy honeymoon as Secretary of State for Health came to a dramatic, about end this week.

abrupt end this week.

Most people feel a morbid, human fascination with those pole-axed by fate just when everything. was going rather swimmingly. There was the clever, confident Mr Dorrell getting on with the business of cleaning up after his unpopular predecessor, Mrs Bottomley - and no doubt occasionally allowing those thrilling predictions of future Tory leadership to fift naughtily through his mind – when mad cow disease (BSE) creeps up and taps him on the shoulder.

The announcement that there may, after all, be a link between BSE in animals and Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CID) in humans and speculation that it may claim as many as 500,000 lives - has scared the public. It has also shaken Mr Dorrell's political ambitions. In a relatively trouble-free ministerial career, he has never before faced a crisis on this scale. The next few weeks will be crucial for a man, who in 1994 was known to only 4 per cent of voters, but is now upped for Number 10.

Of course there have been political difficulties before for the member for Loughborough, who gave up a career in his father's industrial overall business to became an MP in 1979. (His 20 per cent shareholding in the family business and his wife Annette's place on the board ensures an interest and income outside parliament.) First Mr Dorrell, at 27 the youngest of the 1979 intake, languished on the backbenches. Mentored by David Hunt, the former Welsh secretary, he was, both by association and in his own social policy ideas, too damp for Mrs Thatcher's liking.

But after becoming a junior health minister in 1990 he moved swiftly on and up to become Financial Secretary to the Treasury and then Secretary of State for National Heritage. There was that embar-rassing occasion when Mr Dorrell revealed that he thought that Jeanne Moreau, the French actress, was a man. Some found it hard to forgive in a national heritage secretary who had already confessed he could not remember the last film he saw. His detractors sniffed that



Stephen Who? 'He hasn't got a big personality and that is a problem'

Enter the invisible man

he was just too middle-market and middlebrow bourgeois for the job. But these are mere ripples com-

pared to the current storm. The estion is, can Mr Dorrell retain his legendary cool? His unflappability - and dry sense of humour was clearly demonstrated when his mother was recently splashed across the front of the local paper

squirming all week. He has refused to give a direct answer.

He gave an uncharacteristically poor Commons performance when he made his statement on BSE. "Once he started reading he didn't lift his head once," said one commentator. "He totally failed to see the human dimension. He forgot to say he realised that people would

Even Stephen Dorrell's critics say that he is 'awesomely talented'

objecting to the closure of an old folks home in which his father had died. Confronted by the picture of mum and her spaniel, he reportedly said: "Oh well, at least it is a nice

picture of the dog."

Mrs Dorrell's latest media encounter may prove more testing. She revealed in the Daily Mirror yesterday that Mr Dorrell does not eat burgers and nor do his two young children. The question of whether he would feed beef to his own children has had Mr Dorrell

be anxious; that the news was worrying. He was clearly worried about how this would look in five or 10 years' time. He is a very ambitious man and he wants to cover and distance himself. His later statement that he didn't have a scientific opinion worth listening to on the

remarkable abdication of responsibility for a minister." But admirers see the week's performance as a reflection, of his preference for understatement and his

subject was quite bizarre. It was a

low-key style. Until recently, Mr Dorrell regularly loop-the-looped in the skies over his Worcester home in his beloved Tiger Moth. But his devil side is an aberration: frequent comparisons of the minister to the clean-cut models that adorn Fifties knitting patterns are more in keeping with his personal style and political approach. Mr Dorrell would balk at the

notion of a Gummer-style photo opportunity involving his children. And the rather grave Mr Dorrell would have frowned had he inherited "Minister for Fun", the nickname given to David Mellor, his predecessor at heritage. If anything characterises Mr Dorrell it is, they say, "caution".

Even Stephen Dorrell's critics say he is "awesomely talented". Civil servants are full of praise for his command of his brief, manage-

ment skills, courtesy and his loyalty. One political commentator recalls Mr Dorrell's "impressive" return to the Department of Health last year. "Within a week he found himself in front of a health select committee. He had the standard ministerial brief in front of him but never had to open it once." However, Mr Dorrell shares John Major's "greyness".

"There is a touch of the civil servant in him. He hasn't got a big personality and that is a problem," says one political admirer. "Like Kenneth Clarke, he is a confident performer. Both men stand out in the political arena because they will concede points but go on to fight their corner. But Stephen Dorrell is Clarke without the high wire. He is safer, less exciting and less glamorous."

Mr Dorrell claims to enjoy being grilled by Jeremy Paxman. "He is an ideas politician," says one commentator. "He is there because he is interested in politics, not because of his ego. And he sees politics with an outsider's eye. He likes to talk to journalists to sharpen his arguments.

But he will never be leader of

his party. He is just too rational, reasonable and calm a man. He is not combative enough on TV to get the backbenchers' blood up."

Others do not dismiss him so readily. Chris Ham, health economist and adviser to Dorrell, says that everything depends on how he handles his greatest crisis. What is certain is that Mr Dorrell, until recently virtually unknown, will never again be seen as the Cabinet's Invisible Man. BSE will make him or break him.

Vermeer's frozen time draws pilgrims

Andrew Marr explains why Britons are journeying to an exhibition in the Hague

age. Some 20,000 British, as well as 100,000 French, 40,000 Belgians and very many others have trekked to a small, cramped art gallery in the Hague. There, crammed together they have passed by 22 smallish paintings, mostly of mundane domestic scenes. made more than three centuries ago by a man of whom we know little. Why? Because many, the lucky people, will experience something extraordinary, something they will never forget.

Vermeer is beyond explanation. Like all the great artists, what he did escapes words. There are very few Vermeers in the world. Of the 35 known, here are 22. The last time a similar number of Vermeers were gathered together was in May 1696 at a public auction in Amsterdam. The like of this exhibition may not be seen again for another 300 years. Then there is the technical explanation, the description of Vermeer's daring techniques: his use of the camera obscura. and pins with threads to produce perfect perspective; the delicate washes and radical mixes of paint with grit to produce different surfaces: the complex and intellectual attitude to lighting. Vermeer is a risk-taking experimenter to delight in. He can use dribbles of pure colour (the scarlet lace in The Lacemaker) in a way that reminds one of Van Gogh or Jackson Pollock. His flicks of highlight on lips or rich Turk-ish carpets are as flashily brilliant as anything in Manet. His later short-hand treatment of cloth, dividing it into blocks of tumbling fabric, is positively Cubist. There is hardly a paint-

and gasps of delight.
Yet, just as the size of the exhibition is really a curatorial curiosity, so the technical descriptions of Vermeer are only a start. The point of the pilgrimage is the search for some-thing that comes close to spiri-tual revelation. What Vermeer of such intensity that one did, with paint, was to halt time. Watching his silent women by windows, pouring milk, reading letters or examining pearls, is like seeing moments of ordinary life seized, held fast and broken open, revealing some inexpressible mystery.

ing there which doesn't at this

technical level provide shocks

Sometimes the mystery is

This wintry spring. Holland exhibit arting. There is a painting from Brunswick of a drunk. leering woman being seduced -The Girl with the Wine Glass. It is a mundane enough scene. But stand in front of it and really look and it becomes a despairing image of vanity, a human moment stripped unbearably bare. In an entirely different mood is Girl with the Red Hat. a tiny thing, a luscious, dazzling moment of pure lust.

Then there's the famous View of Delft, which is a terrifying picture. The town is picked out in hyper-realist detail while above and below the clouds and shadows pour out of the frame toward the viewer. Change seethes around Vermeer's home town in a meditation about transience and extinction which cannot he properly described.

In Proust's Remembrance of Time's Past, the writer Bergotte

Despair is in contrast with luscious moments of pure lust

goes to a Parisian exhibition where, standing before this very painting, he is driven into a mystical crisis and deep despair while staring at a patch of yellow wall; "In a celestial pair of scales there appeared to him. weighing down one of the pans, his own life, while the other contained the little patch of wall so beautifully painted in yellow. He felt that he had rashly sacrificed the former for the latter." Bergotte, the atheist author. then dies. Well, the painting is still there and the wall is still yellow and the townscape is as aweinspiring as ever.
Proust, who loved Vermeer.

is the writer who comes nearest to his genius and to explaining the pilgrimage. He too was obsessed by the possibility of breaks through into a different moment. The French writer and the Dutch painter were both working on the edge where artistic technique meets mystical experience. If music is time decorated, they were masters of time frozen. And that, in the end, is why so many people unutterably sad, sometimes have been drawn to Holland.

When believers desert their church

Methodism, facing extinction, must learn the importance of not being earnest, says Andrew Brown

In a competitive world, it can seem unusually Christian of the Methodist Church to announce that it is dying; but dying, in an alarmingly literal sense, is what last week's membership figures mean. The church is losing members at a rate of 2.5 per cent a year, if these trends persist, it will have vanished altogether by the middle of the next century.

The problem for the church is not that its members are losing faith: the number who left over the past three years is only 2,000 greater than the number who joined. No, the members the Methodists are really missing will now find their faith is stronger than ever, unfortunately, that is because they are dead. More than 30,000 Methodists have died in the past three years, and their younger replacements are nowhere to be seen. Church membership under the age of 26 has fallen by a fifth in three years. It is possible to be precise about these figures because membership of the Methodists is by subscription. Their churches do not have the large, half-believing penumbra that surrounds Anglican or Roman Catholic membership figures.

Of course, the release of this week's figures was not meant as an invitation to other denominations to start stripping the remaining assets of Methodism. It was meant, in the words of one insider, "to give the church a fright", so that its members would do something about the prob-lem. Extinction for the Methodists had been confidently prophesied in the Fifties and averted,

so why should the threat be real this time? The answer is a profoundly gloomy one, with implications for all the mainstream denominations in Britain. Methodism, it would appear, is dying out because it is boring. Unfortunately, it is no longer boring in ways that Methodists can be proud of. Boringness used to be one of the great strengths of Methodism. It started as a frighteningly exciting mass-movement of the poor and dispossessed, but, within a generation, the poor who became Methodists stopped being so poor. They became sober, industrious, trustworthy, and so, by degrees respectable, often with the fierce, self-righteous respectability of those who know that an abyss of poverty and shame lies close beneath them. It is a process that continues to this day as protestantism advances in Latin America and Eastern Europe.

In England, it produced a serious, instantly

excluded perhaps from the higher reaches of the establishment, but hugely important in the provinces. Mrs Thatcher was brought up a Methodist. The people some of us came to Lon-

don to escape were Methodists. In other words, they might be boring, but they mattered. Methodism had become the natural expression of the spiritual dimension of a distinct and recognisable class. What made it boring or repellent to some people was solidity, not vapidity. And the other large Christian denominations were also embedded in a recognisable matrix. Irish working-class Catholics or Anglican old maids cycling to communion down misty country lanes both represented religions tightly established in particular social and economic roles. This was enormously important because reli-

gions only exceptionally spread by force of argument, or by conversion. Their most effective means of transmission is by osmosis. It is a great mistake of modern secular talk to assume that religions are primarily about belief, when they are actually about practice and ritual. You are not converted to a faith - you grow up in it, without noticing that this is happening.

So religions that established themselves and put down roots in particular parts of society are very vulnerable to social change. Whether "family values" are integral to Christianity (and Jesus himself said some fierce things against families), they are certainly helpful for its transmission. The precipitous decline of the Roman Catholic church in this country is largely a function of its conversion from a working-class

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recognisable, deeply rooted class of meritocrats, John Wesley, founder of Methodism, on his death-bed Mary Evans Picture Library

religion to a middle-class one, with smaller, less stable families. However, Catholicism has a solid core of doctrine that makes it attractive to intellectual converts. Though there still are distinctive and shrewd Methodist intellectuals, it is not a system of thought. When Mrs Thatcher made the shift from attending a Methodist chapel to an Anglican church, this was a social move, not a doctrinal one.

One Anglican priest who, like Mrs Thatcher, was a Methodist until he arrived at Oxford, said that he had left because of "the frightful loquacious earnestness of Methodists. I suddenly realised it was possible to be a Christian without being earnest." This was hardly a doctrinal shift. However, it does suggest ways in which the virtues that act as ropes and pitons to hold you above the abyss of poverty and shame can

come to seem cramping when the abyss recedes.

This is all part of a wider pattern. The United Reform Church, itself formed from a merger of smaller congregationalist bodies, is shrinking almost as fast as the Methodists, and hopes for salvation by union with them. The Methodists, in turn, seem to have no real longterm strategy beyond union with the Church of England - but that body, too, is facing similar problems and for similar reasons. In all these churches, there are success stories, but these are local, and decentralised. People do join, even if fewer join than leave and die; and techniques for attracting new members are being

developed. In America, of course, churches have gained strength from social disruption by becoming social centres themselves. Some churches are doing that in this country now. The most successful modern evangelical technique is the Alpha course, developed at Holy Trinity Brompton, an enormously rich Anglican church in central London, whose methods have been widely adopted elsewhere.

Alpha is a course for modern, mobile and rootless people. It is taken in groups over a 10week period, and includes a residential weekend. To outsiders, it can look like brainwashing: it is certainly as much an introduction to belonging amone Christians as it is to holding particular beliefs. But if the decline of Methodism lends itself to any moral, this is surely that churches are more vigorous when they are frightening than when boring.

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on Politics and the English Language, 50 years after Orwell's famous essay

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ANNE APPLEBAUM

on moral and political squalor in post-communist

why God has survived, Chinese TV, prison from the inside, legalising drugs, David Willetts versus Frank Field, controlling arms exports, English views of art

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cathedral choir, choral society

and the organ. At the sugges-

tion of the Rev David Marriott

then headmaster of the choir

school, Ridout was asked to give

composition lessons to the cho-

risters. In the early 1970s, after

the closure of the choir school

(to which he was vehemently

opposed). Ridout joined the

music staff at the King's School,

Canterbury, where he had

amongst his colleagues Edred Wright, Col Paul Neville and

Barry Rose. His genius for in-

spiring and nurturing talent

will never be forgotten by those

who were lucky enough to be his

Ridout was an immensely

prolific composer and a com-

plete list of his works soon to

be published will run to nearly

a hundred pages. Commissions

were many and varied. For David Willcocks and the Cam-

bridge University Music Society.

a wind symphony (The Adora-

tion of the Magi): for the BBC.

an opera based on the learns

legend; for Kent Opera The Par-

doner's Tale and a children's

opera. Angelo; and, in 1965, the

music for the Royal Maundy

Service at Canterbury. Ridout enjoyed collaborating

with individual instrumentalists

and his associations with Paul

Davis and James Bowman were

especially fruitful. He met Bow-

man in 1970 and his extraordi-

nary voice inspired many

important works including a set-

ting for countertenor solo, cho-

rus and wind of Wilde's Bullad

number of concertinos for solo

instruments with piano or string

accompaniment often written

especially for students or

friends. He wrote for perfor-

mance and his works gave as

much joy to those who per-

formed them as to those who lis-

tened; it is not insignificant

that he is familiar as a composer

to many amateur musicians

much that he wrote and it is fit-

Joy and humour pervaded so

throughout the country.

Ridout's fluency lead to a vast

of Reading Gael.

students.

Alan Ridout

Alan Ridout could have succeeded in almost any walk of life. His outstanding intellectual ability coupled with enviable self-discipline would have ensured a rise to the height of any protession he chose, but from an early age there was no question in his mind but that his life should be devoted to music.

Before he knew that such a thing as composing existed he heard music in his head, and by the age of 12 had written over 100 works. His mother was a vital (orce in his musical education (and in his life) and it was she who, in the face of fierce onposition from his father, heeded the advice of musical friends and arranged for him to have piano lessons when he was nine years old. By the age of 12 he had reached Grade Eight in the Associated Board of the Royal which he passed with distinction, and at 15 he was allowed to leave Huberdashers' Aske's School, then in Hampstead. and study music full-time at the Guildhall School of Music, In his autobiography. A Composer's Life (1995), he refers to this as the happiest day of his life, for he had known from early childhood that all he wanted to do was write music.

The Guildhall opened up a new world to the young musician. However, he was disappointed with the composition lessons and in desperation sent a set of variations for ohoe and string orchestra to Benjamin Britten with an appeal for help. The reply was encouraging, and taking the advice "At 15 one can learn something from everyone" to heart Ridout spent nearly two years at the Guildhall. (Many years later he was to write a piece for Peter Pears in which Gorald Moore accompanied him.)

In 1951 he was offered a place at the Royal College of Music. Here he studied piano with Thornton Lofthouse and composition with Gordon Jacob, a teacher for whom he had tremendous respect, and Herbert Howells, whose music meant much to Ridout in later

Before leaving the college he position from Peter Racine a week left for composing. Tricker and while teaching near

chance conversation with his risters at Canterbury Cathedral, barber, he met Sir Michael commissioned Ridout to write Tippett, under whom he also studied. In 1958 a Netherlands Government Scholarship gave him the opportunity to study with the composer Henk Badings, who introduced him to the electronic techniques of composing as well as a wide variety of contemporary European mu-



sic. He claimed that, out of all his teachers, he had learned most from Badings.

When he left the Royal College at the age of 20 the problem of making a living and leaving time for composition was solved by his taking up the post of Director of Music at a preparatory school in Kent: teaching was to form an important part of Alan Ridout's career for the next 35 years.

By 1964 he was Professor of Theory and Composition at the Royal College of Music and teaching at Cambridge. Birmingham and London Universities. He became friends with Howard Ferguson, the composer, pianist, and scholar. through whom he met Ursula Vaughan Williams. Friendships such as these. which lasted for the rest of Ridout's life, were important to him on both intellectual and social levels.

In the 1960s he broadcast two substantial series on musical education for the BBC, but did not enjoy the experience and found that with the teaching that he was already committed to he took extramural lessons in com- had little more than a few hours

In 1964 Alan Wicks, then or-Tunbridge Wells, through a ganist and master of the Cho-

commissioned by the Three Choirs Festival and performed at Hereford in 1994 and again a piece for the cathedral choir. at York Minster only a few Out of this commission came a months ago, should have been collaboration, founded on mu-A Canticle of Joy, a deeply mov-ing consummation of his life's tual admiration, that blossomed into a period of intense creativity centred around the

Alan Ridout's effervescent and spontaneous humour was irresistible and he was unceasingly kind and generous to his friends and to other composers and artists. He was like the best parts of each member of one's family rolled into one; having the wisdom and authority of a father, the love and encouragement of a mother and the closeness of a brother. He was observant of life's problems but never intrusive; his help, advice and support know no bounds. His understanding of human nature gave him the insight to know when he was most needed and the clarity and soundness of his advice grew out of a life of intense observation which began in his earliest childhood.

His passions in life spread beyond music to art, architec-ture, food, and, in later life, travel and in all of these his taste was totally individual and often unconventional, being guided by a profound knowledge of his subject and a confident instinct that was invariably right and always refreshing. (Except perhaps in food, where his tastes erred towards the bizarre. He found Mars Bars irresistible and would consume quantities of them throughout a day. I was with him in France recently and before catching my boat we looked for a restaurant for lunch. Surrounded by the best that Brittany could offer he chose a Chinese establishment and we ate food that could have been found in any high street in England. Perhaps he was

homesick.) He opened people's eyes to aspects of their chosen subject that they had passed over and often drew one's attention to something that had suffered at the hands of the popularists. His great sadness at the death of Leonard Bernstein stemmed from an admiration for a musical polymath whose career had encompassed every aspect. resulting in his dismissal by much that he wrote and it is fit-ting that his last major work, showman. Ridout had no time



Ridout: a profific composer and a man of profound but original faith

for pomposity or snobbishness in any walk of life.

He had a profound but orig-inal faith and was deeply religious; his conversion to Catholicism in 1994 seemed a logical progression for him. Whilst staying with his publisher, June Emerson, in Ampleforth, he felt a magnetism towards the Roman Catholic Community at Ampleforth Abbey and it was there that he was received into the Roman Catholic Church, being made an oblate of the order of St Benedict soon afterwards. After a serious heart attack

of the French conducive to the life he wanted to live. He settled in Vitré, a town he had known for many years, and recently moved to Caen. Peter Miall Alan Ridout, composer: born

in 1990 when he was told that

he could not expect to live for

more than two years he decid-

ed to move to France, some

thing he had always wanted to

do. He found France and the

daily courtesy and consideration

West Wickham, Kent 9 December 1934; died Caen, France 19

and Jo, his wife of 66 years, trav-

elled a great deal. He was a keer

gardener and had a large gar-

den with a paddock where he

kept bees; his friends were all

given honey for Christmas. We

would also be invited to hay

making parties. Following the

recent death of his wife, Perry

continued to live alone and

resisted supervision by his

daughters. He was still baking

Claude Bourdet

On 31 March 1956 French security police came to arrest Claude Bourdet.

He was taken first to the prison of La Santé, then to Fresnes. He was finally taken to some barracks where a magistrate prepared to examine him. "It's curious." Bourdet remarked, "but it's exactly the same as last time. First to Santé, then Presnes. You've followed the same route as the others." "What do you mean, the others"?" asked the magistrate, frowning. "Why. the Gestapo, of course," replied Bourdet. You must have heard of them." The magistrate went white with rage. Bourdet thought he was going

to hit him. In 1956 Bourdet was arrested because he had written an article attacking the policies of the French government in Algeria. He was accused of demoralising the army. In March 1944 it was as a leader of the Resistance that he was arrested, deported to Oranienburg. and from there to Buchenwald The irony of the 1956 incident was that the orders for his arrest came from two former companions of the Resistance. Bourges-Maumoury, the Minis-ter for Defence, and the head of his private office, Louis Mangin, who had been sent from London by de Gaulle to occupied France.

-Thus Bourdet was able to contemplate to what extent the forces that had been united against the Germans had-become disunited. The 1956 arrest was not important. Bourdet being released within hours of his arrest, which had caused a wave of protests. But, 30 years later, he was still recalling the sadness that it had caused him. What he considered to be the best in France had become divided, hostile to each other, enemies Yet all his life he had con-

templated such divisions and had, in no small way, himself contributed to them. In the autumn of 1940, Henri Frenay, a distinguished young officer who was humiliated by the defeat, began to organise patriotic groups in the south of France. Claude Bourdet joined with enthusiasm, and in May 1941 Frenay appointed him the leader of the network in the departments of the Alpes-Maritimes and the Var. The south was not occupied by the Germans, so the task of the Resistance was not so much fighting as propaganda. At this Bourdet and his associates were remarkably successful. From December 1941 onwards their main publication became Com-5,000 copies an issue to some 150,000. Their Resistance network adopted the name of its

But there were many problems within the Resistance movements. Frenay believed that Pétain, the hero of Verdun, could save France. Bourdet, in long walks along the quais of Marseilles, persuaded him that they had nothing to hope from him. Then there were the Communists. Bourdet was reluctant to co-operate with them. and fearful of their future dommance. Most famous of all were his suspicions of de Gaulle and London, his contempt for those who knew nothing about Resistance work giving orders to those who had gained vast

experience and knowledge.
This last led him to be less than enthusiastic about Jean Moulin, who was charged by de-Gaulle with unifying the dif-

ferent Resistance groupings. But he never wavered in his conviction that the aim of the Resistance was to create a new France, one which would be modern and progressive.

Bourdet's father was Edouard Bourdet a highly successful dramatist; his mother, Catherine Pozzi, a poet with a famous salon. With their divorce, Bourdet studied in Zurich as an engineer. Having become bilingual in French and English through his English nanny, he became tri-lingual with German attached. As-a left-wing Catholic he supported the Popular Front, and from 1930 he was attached to the economics minister. Charles Spinasse, who disappointed him by being one of the socialists who voted full powers to Pétain in July 1940.

On Bourdet's teturn to France in 1945 he was elected deputy to the first Consultative Assembly and was for a time in charge of national broadcasting. But his future was in political journalism. He succeeded Albert Camus in the peacetime Combat newspaper, but quarrelied with the owner, and left in order to be one of the founders of the weekly France-Observateur, an independent left-wing publication with great influence.

I first met Bourdet when I was a student at the Ecole Nor-



Photograph: Hulton Deutsch

male Supérieure in 1948, when he came to denounce the war in Indo-China. He told me that he had great hopes of the Labour government in England, and believed that it would become the leader of a united socialist Europe. In 1957 he came to Birmingham University to speak of French misdeeds in Algeria. His English was perfect but dated. It was curious to hear such a militant speaking the language of Bertie Wooster. His visit was a great success.

Against de Gaulle in 1958, in favour of the Third World: working for a new independent socialist party; in opposition to a Europe dominated by capitalism and Germany. Some said that he was the sort of man who would drive his car in order to give help, but would knock an innocent bystander down as he did so.

ne kun bisani

Others saw him as the stalwart defender of justice, the tireless believer in a better world, a man of outstanding honesty. Douglas Johnson

Claude Bourdet, journalist and resister, born Paris 28 October 1909; Founder and Editor, France-Observateur (now Le Nouvel Observateur) 1950-63; -books include L'Aventure incertaine 1975; married 1935 Ida Adamoff (two sons, one daugh-ter); died Paris 20 March 1996.

Professor C. B. Perry

C. B. Perry was appointed as the Bristol public school, but only first full-time Professor of Med-one case of acute rheumatism icine in Bristol University in 1935. He spent much of his protessional life, which stretched over more than 30 years, in combating the causes of rhoumatism. and cardiac disease, particularly

in the young. At the time of his appointment, acute rhoumatism was a leffects of rhoumatism was common disease of young people. It was said to "lick the joints that bite the heart". The phrase was coined to describe the fleeting but immediately apparent pain caused to the joints by the disease, by contrast with its more serious long-term effects on the heart. In the first half of this century, chronic rheumatic heart disease was one of the largest killers of young people, often causing death from heart failure in the

early twenties, and offering little chance of survival past 40, In the 1930s, there was an outbreak of streptococcal throat

in St Philip's, a slum area of Bristol, resulted in hundreds of cases. Perry undertook a study of the conditions which had led to this situation, and showed that a very important factor determining the severity of the poverty, and not simply the presence of a streptococcal infection. He set up a long-stay care unit for children at Winford Hospital in Bristol, to allow cases of rheumatism to be treated in carefully controlled surroundings, with good food and rest available. He continued care of those with the chronic heart condition into adulthood and throughout their lives, and served as the Chairman of the British Cardiac Society from 1961 until 1962. Petry was a Bristol man

through and through; he went to the grammar school and infection at Clifton College, a then to the university, where he



qualified with honours in 1926. He undertook, with Dr Carcy Coombes at Bristol, some pioneering postgraduate research into myocardial infarction, a common cause of

heart attacks, investigating

coronary disease, at that time a relatively new area of research. First and foremost, Perry was an excellent doctor. He

maintained a conservative atti- like all determined men, he did Royal College of Physicians. He tude to new medical treatments not suffer fools gladly. for his patients at Bristol, With the advent of the Na preferring a method to be thoroughly tried and tested before he would agree to put it into practice.

the success of the university as a whole, and not just that of the medical school. He served as Pro-Vice-Chancellor from 1958 to 1961, and was made an Hon-orary Fellow in 1986. He was involved in the building of the student union in 1965, the maintenance of an excellent student health service and the rebuilding and expansion of the medical school in 1960.

His patients, particularly children, loved him - they quickly saw through his abrupt manner and realised he had au inner kindliness. His students respected him as a brilliant lecturer and bedside teacher, though they feared him as an examiner. His professional colleagues admired him, although,

record holder, 1921. Deaths: Stend-

tional Health Service in 1948 he

also became a powerful influence in medicine in the southwest region and in the affairs of He was also concerned with the Bristol Royal hospitals. He was closely involved with the Royal College of Physicians, serving as President from 1961 to 1962 and was a censor (one of the main examiners for the college) from 1962 until 1964. Perry was fascinated by local history, and wrote a book on the

history of the Royal Infirmary, entitled The Bristol Royal Infirmary 1904-74 (1981). He had a particular interest in Edward Jenner, the Gloucestershire GP who had introduced vaccination against smallpox. Perry helped to establish the Jenner Trust and Museum, at Barclay, and published a biography. Edward Jenner, in 1986.

After his retirement in 1969 Bruce Perry continued his interest in the university and the

his own bread a few days before he died. D. R. Coles Charles Bruce Perry, physician: born 11 November 1903; physician, Bristol Royal Hospital for Sick Children and Women 1928-30; physician, Winford Onhopaedic Hospital 1930-33; Assistant Physician, Bristol Gen-eral Hospital 1933-35; Professor of Medicine, Bristol University 1935-69 (Emeritus); married

1929 Jo Harvey (deceased; three

daughters); died Bristol 12 March

Births, Marriages & Deaths

BOTTRALL: On 21 March, Margaret died peacefully at Edward House, Cambridge, aged 86, Much loved and deeply missed. Requirem Mass at Little 8 Mary's Church, Cambridge, on Tuesday 2 April, at 2pm, followed by cremation.

by cremation.

DUFFY Limes Patrick, Passed away at 51 James. Hospital, Leede, on 20 March, aged 74. Belowed huchard of Anne, dearly loved father of Tomas and a dear grandfather. Cortege will leave home on Wednesday 27 March at 1.10pm for service and cremation at Lawnewood. Crematorium at Lawnewood. Crematorium at Lawnewood. 1.30pm. Flowers may be sent to the Private Chapels of Wm Dodgwin and Son, Lupton Avenue, Leeds LSO nEQ.

Appropriements for Gazette RIRTHS MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries, In Memoriam) should be sent in writing to the Gazette Editor. The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, Lon-don E14 SDL, telephoned to 0171-293 2011 or faxed to 0171-293 2010, and are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra), OTHER Gazette announcements (notices, functions, Fortherming marriuges. Marriages) must be submitted in writing (or fased) and are charged at £10 a line, VAT extra. Please include a daytime telephone number.

Changing of the Guard TODA: The Household Cavalry Moun of Pagament mounts the Ouega's Life Goard at Horse Guards, Ham, Tol-MORROW: The Household Cavalination founced Regiment mounts the Queen's Fore Guard at Horse Guards, Burn, 1st Battalian Inch Guards mounts the Orecon-Guard, at Buckingham Palace, 11 30am, hand provided by the Grenadier Guards.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr S. Dercon and Miss P. Krishnan

The engagement is announced between Pramila Krishnan, of Bangalore, India, and Stefan Dercon, of Leuven, Belgium,

Birthdays TODAY: Professor Harry Allen. Emeritus Professor of American Studies, University of East Anglia, 79; Mr Mike Atherton, cricketer, 28; Mr Norman Bailey, barilone, 63; Sir Roger Bannister, neurologist and former Master of Pembroke College. Odord, 67; Mr Wasim Bari, former Pakistan eneketer, 48; Mr Bryan Bass, former Headmaster, City of London School, 62: Mr Alan Bleasdale, playwright, 50; Mr Geoffrey Bush, composer, 76; Mr Geoffrey Chitton-Brown MP, 43: Mr Barry Cryer, writer and comedian, 61: Protessor Patrick Dowling, Vice-Chancellor, Surrey University, 57: Mrs Rosalind Gilmore, former chairman. Building Societies Commission and chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, 59; Mr Peter Godfrey, former senior partner, Ernst and Whinney, 72: Professor Kenneth Gregory, Warden, Goldsmith's College, London, 58: Mr Akira Kurosawa, film director, 86; Sir Geoffrey Leigh, chairman. Allied London Properties, 63: Sir David McNee, former Commission-er, the Metropolitan Police, 71; Mr Michael Manser, architect, 67; Mr Andrew Miller MP, 47: Mr Andrew Mitchell MP, 40; Mr Alfred Morris MP, 68; Mr Michael Nyman, composer, 52; Sir Ralph Perring, former Lord Mayor of London, 91: Sir Desmond Pitcher, chairman, North West Water Group, 61; Mr John Rowe Of a Recorder of the Crown Court, (4): Miss Cindy Shelley, actress.

36; Mr Oliver Sherwood, racehorse

trainer, 41; Sir Ian Todd, consulting surgeon, St Bartholomew's Hospital, 75; Sir Edward Warner, former diplomat. 85; Sir Denis Wright, former diplomat, 85.

TOMORROW: Air Chief Marshal

John Allison. Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief Logistics Command, 53: Mr David Alkinson MP, 56; Mr Roy Berridge, former chairman, South of Scotland Electricity Board, 74: Miss Barbara Daly. make-up artist, 51; Dame Jane Drew, architect, 85; Mr Robert Fox, theatrical producer, 44: Mr James Fox-Andrews QC, former circuit judge, 74; Mr Archie Gemmili, footballer. 49: Mr Richard Giordano, chairman. British Gas. 62: Mr Wilson Harris, novelist, 75: Mr Basharat Hassan, cricket umpire, 52: Professor John Hedgecoe, Emeritus Professor of Photography, Royal College of Art. 59; Mr David Jewell, Master, Haileybury College, 62; Sir John Kendrew, former President, St John's College, Oxford, 79; Miss Some Lannaman, athlete, 40; Sir Peter Leslie, former chairman, Commonwealth Development Corporation, 65: Mr Benjamin Luson, baritone, 59: Mr Patrick Malahide, actor, 51: Sir Peter Meinertzhagen, tormer general manager, Commonwealth Development Corporation, 76: Mr Gene Nelson, dancer, actor and director, 76; Miss Suzanne Norwood, former circuit judge, 70: Protessor Dorothy Severin, Gilmour Professor of Spanish, Liverpool University, 54; Mr. Alan-Sugar, charman of Amstrad, 49; Professor Harry Whittington, geologist. 80: Mr Peter Winfield, former senior partner. Healey and Baker, 69.

Anniversaries

TODAY: Births: Roger Martin du Gard, novelist and playwright, 1881; Joan Crawford (Lucille Le Sueur). Campbell, land and water speed

hal (Marie Henri Beyle), novelist, 1842: Raoul Dufy, painter and designer, 1953; Peter Lorre (Laszlo lowenstein), actor, 1964, On this day: the marriage of Catherine of Aragon to King Henry VIII was declared valid by the Pope, although in 1533 he had married Anne Boleyn. 1534: Adolf Hitler became dictator Germany, 1933; the Archbishop of Canterbury visited Rome and met the Pope, the first official meeting between the two churches for 400 years, 1966. Today is the Feast Day of St Benedict the Hermit, St Ethel-Turibius of Lima and St Victorian. TOMORROW: Births: William Mortis, socialist, artist, poet and typog-rapher. 1834: Terrence Steven (Steve) McQueen, actor, 1930. Deaths: Oucen Elizabeth I, 1603; Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, poct. 1882: Jules Verne, novelist, 1905; John Millington Synge, playwright, 1909: Cristobal Balenciaga, couturier. 1972, Field Marshal Bernard Law Montgomery, first Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, 1976; Ernest Howard Shepard, artist and illustrator, 1976. On this day: after King James (James I of England, James VI of Scotland) ascended the throne of England, the English and Scottish crowns were united, 1603; the University Boat Race between Oxford and Cambridge ended in a dead heat, 1877; the national loaf was introduced into Britain, 1942. Today is the Feast Day of St Aldemar, Si

Lectures

TODAY National Portrait Gallery: Valeric Holman, "Modernism and Inherited Traditions in 20th-century Por-

Catharine of Vadstena, St Irenaeus

ot Sirmlum. St Simon of Trent and

The exodus to Rome by disaffected Anglicans has hit a snag. They want to take

1006

their buildings with them. In the original exodus, Moses had a hard time persuading the Israelites to leave

Egypt, and that was when they only had tents to worry about. A large Victorian Gothic pile is less easy to transport. Nevertheless, people cannot bear to leave them behind. This problem throws an interesting light on what exactly are the essentials of the faith. At St Stephen's, Gloucester Road, in

Kensington, London, Canon Christopher Colven and 35 of his congregation think they might have a solution. After Easter. they are going down the road to be re-ceived into the Roman Catholic Church. The next day, they are coming back again. The diocese of London has agreed to their using the parish church for Roman Catholic masses on Wednesday and Saturday evenings. The part of the congregation which is staying on will continue to keep Sundays to themselves.

At Holy Trinity, Hoxton, in east London, the diocese has been willing to go one step further, by declaring the church redundant and leasing it to the Roman Catholics. That way, Fr Stuart Wilson and the 40 of his congregation who went over to Rome earlier this month could have stayed put. The Romans declined, not wanting any more churches in the East End - which must have been a relief to the 35 or so members of the congregation

who have chosen to remain Anglicans. All will be well now. The diocese is sure to find a priest who is happy to take over at St Stephen's and work alongside his predecessor, and plenty of priests will be glad the Church's anti-aestheticism (not to be confused with asceticism). What matters is the spiritual communion between worshipper and a God who is spirit.

This sentiment rings a little false in a Church which has billions of pounds in church has billions of counts the

Bricks and mortar and a sacred space

Do church buildings matter? Paul Handley, Editor of the Church Times, who has found himself extraordinarily moved just by a shaft of light through stained glass, thinks they do.

congregation in a church which the diocese is so attached to.

The diocese might not be committed to Holy Trinity, but Jacky Keegan is. She spoke this week about the temptation to become a Roman Catholic. "I would have gone, if I could have stayed in my church . . . but I've been there too long. to leave it. They say bricks and mortar is nothing, but it isn't for me."

Canon Colven said the same thing in the St Stephen's parish magazine, though in more clerical mode:

The significance of church buildings ought not to be over-played (they are essentially no more than a roof under which the eucharistic family can gather); but neither should they be underplayed. They are the focus for so many memo-ries that mark impurtant staging posts on the journey to God. They also provide a meeting place with fellow pilgrims both alive and departed.

Colven begins by paying lip-service to the received Christian wisdom. The Church, it has always been said, is the body of Christ. The Church is a living thing, made up entirely of its members. The "justto move to Holy Trinity, to minister to half a-roof-over-the-head argument is part of parcelled up and carried away.

vested in church buildings. Of course the buildings are important. Only look at how impossible it is to get people to agree to even the most modest rationalistion, if it entails closing down or even reducing the use of their church.
It is optimistic to uproof a seedling and

expect it to take in another location. When a post office is closed down, the Royal Mail can be sure that its customers will buy their stamps somewhere else. Not so a church: under such circumstances, many people? simply depart, never to return.

The pull of a particular building is hard.

to explain. I once attended a post-war church not far from Holy Trunty. From the outside, it looks like a swimining-pool. Inside are some pretty stunning murals, but it still resembles a municipal badminton hall Except for some insignificant stained glass windows high up on the walls. To bepraying, and find a stain of coloured light on your hand, or your sleeve, was extraordinarily moving.

Those who are tuned into these things talk about sacred space. The suggestion is that the bricks, mortar and stone are not important in themselves, but they frame a shape of air. These are motionless bits 3: of the world, rare places where prayers can: be held and not blown away, where God can dwell and be encountered. Light, colour, smell, order and the texture of sound, more precious, to many, than denominational ties, cannot be easily

The state of the s

Figures at close of husiness 21/3/96			DUSINE
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"He wants his children to have a proper holiday,

even though he won't be there to see it."

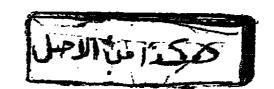
Nursing someone who's going through the final stages of cancer can take more than professional skills. A Marie Curie Nurse could even be asked to help plan a holiday for a patient's young family.

Last year we cared for well over 20,000 cancer patients in their own homes - providing more than one

We also have eleven Hospice Centres across the UK, the world renowned Marie Curie Research institute and education and training in cancer care for doctors, nurses and paramedics.

No charge is ever made to our patients, or their families. We depend heavily on voluntary contributions.

Please help us to continue this vital work.





Oftel turns its fire on BSkyB cable terms

and MATHEW HORSMAN

Don Cruickshank, the telecoms regulator, is gunning for Ruport Murdoch, in a bid to break the media buron's near monopoly on pay-TV programming.

In a 60-page submission to the Office of Fair Trading, which is investigating Mr Murdoch's BSkyB, Mr Cruickshank's Oftel has lashed out at the terms on makes its pay-TV programmes - including the popular Sky

able to cable companies.

BUSINESS NEWS DESK: tel 0171-293 2530 fax 0171-293 2098

The intervention by Oftel, the telecommunications regulator, will increase tension with the Independent Television Commission, the television watchdog. But Oftel argues that it has a right to be concerned over the future of the cable industry, which is the major competitor to

BT in local telephone services. BSkyB currently dictates the terms on which it makes its channels available to the cable industry. Specifically, operators can only receive significant dis- criminatory pricing, based on therefore is threatening the counts on programming if they accept "bundles" of channels. various parts of BSkyB's busi-The price is fixed as a percentage of the retail price which BSkyB charges its direct-to-

Oftel regards both practices as unacceptable and anti-competitive. Mr Cruickshank is thought to be adamant that all BSKyB programming be unbundled, giving cable operators freedom to pick and choose among them.

various parts of BSkyB's busiproach used by Mr Cruickshank in his dealings with BT. The Oftel submission says that accounting separation is a key

should be a central part of any undertakings. There are good grounds for considering that [BSkyB]'s pricing and other practices are tending to hold back the devel-

op of the cable companies and

Top jobs controversy: Fresh criticism for Sir Richard Sykes as NatWest banker's rewards overtake his chief executive's

safeguard against abuse, and

prospects for competition in pay-TV in both the short and the ing term."

Oftel's chief concern is that

this will in turn hold back the cable industry's ability to market its cable services and thereby reduce its attractiveness to potential telephone customers.

Cable operators could find themselves "between a rock and a hard place", with Sky on one side and BT on the other. The ITC is believed to be wary

of Oftel's intervention, and sees

poach its territory. Under the current regime, the ITC and Oftel are meant co-operate in key areas, including conditional acscrambling and unscrambling of TV signals used by pay-TV

But it is increasingly obvious that the ITC regards Oftel as a rival rather than a partner in overseeing a rapidly evolving industry, where the old distinctions between broadcasting and tele-phony are becoming blurred.

received by the OFT, whose director-general. John Bridgeman, launched the inquiry earlier this year its conclusions are expected by the end of June. It may recommendation a reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, but the ultimate decision lies with ministers. It is not yet clear whether the OFT views the

pay-TV market as separate from the overall broadcasting market, a distinction that could dictate the outcome of the inquiry.

Office in pensions amnesty

PETER RODGERS

The Post Office has offered 11,000 employees the right to opt back into its pension for members who quit to take out personal pensions.

The offer to non-members who include some who refused to join the £10.5bn scheme when they arrived at the Post Office, runs to the end of June.

Only a handful of public sector employers have made arrangements to readmit pension scheme members who left. as a result of the personal pensions mis-selling scandal, which came to light more than two years ago.

Members of schemes such as

the mineworkers, the teachers, the nurses and the Post Office were tempted by hard selling to drop the often substantial benefits of their corporate schemes and take up personal pensions that offered less security and lower pensions.
The Securities and Invest-

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ments Board stepped in when the scale of the problem came to light, and pension providers are expected to pay substantial damages to customers who were sold the wrong policies. But so far no cases have reached court and no compensation has been paid. The Post Office said The amnesty gives our people a sec-

ond chance if they feel they made a mistake, perhaps after being targeted by personal pension sales teams. Many responded immediately to our of-fer and more are following as they calculate the benefits."

Under the rules of the scheme, many of the 11,000 employees are prevented from rejoining by age or time limits, but the Post Office said the bresent circumstances were un-

A survey by the Post Office found that four out of five of its employees who opted out of the scheme did so to take out personal pensions, but the majority regretted it and now wanted to change their minds and get back in

never joined the compan scheme also wanted a second chance to become members. Although the 11,000 will be able to regain the benefits of the Post Office's generous state sector scheme, they will not be able to replace the benefits lost during their period outside the scheme, except by suing the personal pension providers for compensation.

Among the other state employees hit by the scandal. the Home Office has agreed to amend legislation (Ext

Glaxo chief's pay and bonuses soar to £2.15m MAGNUS GRIMOND and payment of less than £60,000 increase on the £931,000 he was which a 45-year-old worker with

JOHN EISENHAMMER

Glaxo Wellcome's chief executive. Sir Richard Sykes, looks set to spark a new controversy over executive salaries after it emerged that his total emoluments soured to £2.15m in 1995. making him one of the best paid directors in Britain. The news came as it was revealed that Martin Owen, head of NatWest Markets, received a 26 per cent pay rise to £617,000 last year. overtaking his boss, chief executive Derek Wanless.

The payment to Sir Richard covers a year when the giant drugs group announced 7,500 redundancies in the aftermath of its £9.3bn merger with rivals

It comes just as senior management are set to move to a new incentive scheme inspired by the Greenbury report last year on executive pay which could not them over £20m in the next three years.

Sir Richard's pay last year compares with a redundancy

20 years service could have expected to receive after the closure of Wellcome's Beckenham research centre in Kent last year.

Paul Talbot, national officer of the MSF union, which represents workers at Glaxo Wellcome, said: "This is just disgraceful in view of the number of people who have lost their jobs in the last 12 months. That's not justifiable." Most of recent controversial

increases in executive pay were in the privatised utilities. But after a 42 per cent rise this week in the remuneration package of Sir Ronald Hampel, chairman of ICI and of the new corporate governance committee that is to foilow up the Greenbury work, there are concerns that the issue of rising pay at the top may spread to other companies

to the end of December, re-

paid for the 12 months to June 1994, even when account is taken of the extended accounting period.

But the company defended

the payment yesterday, citing changed year end and extra payments made to buy out a former incentive scheme. A spokesman said: "Our view

is that salaries are competitive and appropriate, given the company's size and complexity and its place in the international pharmaceuticals market. The new [incentive] schemes provide demanding targets. Sir Richard's basic annual

salary went up from £700,000 to £800,000 last year, which came out at £1.125m for the 18 months. On top of that he of £212,000 relating to the 1993-94 financial year, which was paid The latest figure for Sir in the latest period due to the Richard covers the 18 months changed year end, and £41,000 in other benefits. He received a flecting a changed year end, but further £770,000 to buy out the stiil represents a considerable old incentive scheme, known as



PUP for short The new incentive schemes involve an annual element and a long-term plan. Essentially directors can collect up to 200 per cent of their salaries in shares after four years if certain per- the FT-SE 100 index.

the performance unit plan or sonal and corporate performance targets are met.

In Sir Richard's case, this could be close to £5m over the three year period in which, amongst other things, the company must rank amongst the top 10 companies in

Meanwhile, the premium for top investment bankers was

underlined yesterday with the publication of the £617,000 total remuneration paid to Martin Owen, the chief executive of NatWest Markets. He earned less, the chief executive of the whole NatWest Group.
According to NatWest's an-

qual report and accounts for 1995, Mr Wanless had a total remuneration package of £595,000, a 19 per cent in

£400m buyback to boost Guinness earnings

tom stevenson

A day after disappointing investors by failing to come up with a scheme to return cash to shareholders. Guinness moved into the market yesterday to buy move was welcomed by analysts who expect it to be marginally earnings enhancing this year. Guinness chairman Tony Greener said: "We are clear that our strategy, growing brands of

s reinvestment for growth in our existing business. Financial resource, where not required in the business, will be returned to shareholders in the most efficient manner.

The share buyback, conduct-100 million shares at 463p. The ed on Guinness's behalf by Cazenove, followed the annonneement on Thursday of disappointing full year figures dragged down by lower profits in the company's United Dis-

Despite heavy spending on

ganic one. Our principal focus struggle to overcome depressed economies around the world. While profits were flat, however, cash flow remained strong during the year with net debt at the Johnnie Walker to Guinness

stout group falling by almost

Guinness also managed an 8 per cent rise in the dividend payout which has increased by 38 per cent over the past four years, compared with an aver-

age rise of 28 per cent for FTSE100 companies and an inflation rate over the same periworld, remains essentially an or-marketing. Guinness had to od of only 12 per cent.

Standard & Poor's, the credit rating agency, confirmed its previous double A minus debt rating for Guinness, saying the move did not depart from "Guinness's historically moderate financial policies.

A return of some value to shareholders had been expected since last year's annual meeting when Guinness received approval from its shareholders to buy back up to 200 million shares, representing 10 per cent

They are setting an example that other companies should year from 28-23 per cent.

follow", Panmure Gordon analyst Colin Humphreys said When you have fairly mature businesses that aren't really growing but generate lots of cash, you should return money to shareholders."

Guinness shares edged 4.5p higher to 465p as analysts factored in earnings enhancement in a full year of about 1.7 per cent. The deal is expected to increase gearing to 33-35 per cent by the end of the year, comgearing would fall during the

nouncing its own results on Thursday, the French company said it had no intention of reducing its holding. Guinness said that under UK tax law, 325p of the cost of buying each share would be counted as a distribution. Tax exempt shareholders would therefore be eligible for a tax credit worth 81p

Wilson Connolly confirmed the

dire state of the house-building

market last year with a phinge

in sales and profits from its mass

market housing operation;

which sells three and four-bed-

room houses for about £60,000,

writes Tom Stevenson. The fall

in profits from £38.2m to

£22.5m was well below expec-

tations in the City and the

Lynn Wilson, chairman, said:

The recovery in the housing

market since 1992 gave hope

shares tumbled 12p to 162p.

LVMH, the French luxury

goods and spirits business which

owned 20 per cent of Guinness,

did not take part in the buyback

and its stake rose by one per-

centage point as a result. An-

Gummer rejects BAe's | National Express in front | Profits plunge at plan for Bristol airport for Gatwick rail franchise Wilson Connolly British Aerospace's plan to run Mr Gummer announced his

a second commercial airport for Bristol has been refused by the Environment Secretary John The refusal leaves a question

mark over the future of BAc's north Bristol Filton site, former home production base of Concorde and now a major facility for the European Airbus. The aircraft company had

said that its proposal for a business airport using Filton's run-way - one of the longest in Europe - was vital in securing the jobs of 3,700 employees. Income from the airport would have reduced the £1.5m annual operating deficit of the field.

decision at a business seminar in Bristol today. It follows weeks val the municipally-owned Lulsgate Airport for business traffic.

Mr Gummer said that he was accepting the recommendation for dismissal by Ms Jean Brushfield, who conducted a threemonth public inquiry into the port facilities, he said/ proposal last year. port facilities, he said/ BAe's proposal wou

Mr Gummer said: "I recognise that this decision, while welcome to many local residents, will disappoint others, particularly local businesses. But the decision ends a substantial period of uncertainty about future air

"It leaves Bristol's existing vices and the new terminal which was granted planning consent last year."

The government will now commission a study of future demand for air travel in the region and the capacity of existing air-BAe's proposal would have

involved converting an existing building to a business terminal. The company had hoped for around 23,000 aircraft movements a year, including 6,000 at freight traffic to UK and Continental destinations.

CHRISTIAN WOLMAR Transport Correspondent National Express, the coach

company, has emerged as the surprise preferred bidder for the Gatwick Express rail franchise. beating off bids from Virgin and the management buyout team which had linked in with British

Disappointed bidders for the Gatwick Express franchise were yesterday told of their failure to gain preferred bidder status and National Express has now entered a two-week sole negotiation period with the Office of Passenger Rail Franchising. There has been consternation

in the City over the leaky nature of the bidding process. One insider said that this was partly as a result of OPRAF's refusal to publish any information about the process. He said: "If OPRAF published the shortlist of bidders, and then announced its decision as soon as it was made, we would not have these problems." There have been two surges in National Express's share price over the past 10 days,

suggesting that knowledge of its success leaked out. The company is also the favourite to win the Midland Main Line franchise, but there are now doubts over whether Roger Salmon, the franchising

director, would want a single company to be awarded two franchises. Mr Salmon is, however, facing a dilemma over the paucity of bidders shortlisted for the second tranche of four lines which are currently at the final Sca Containers is known to

be the sole preferred bidder for the East Coast Main Line, and Compagnie Generale des Eaux is in the final stages of negoti-ation to take over Network SouthCentral.

With management buyout teams now out of favour, Mr Salmon may have little choice but to award two franchises to

that the worst of the recession was over. Sadly 1995 was yet another false dawn: continuing job insecurity, reductions in mortmarket have all impacted on tragile consumer confidence."

Turnover at the Midlands based housebuilder collapsed from £316m to £245m as the lysts had been expecting a maintained level of completions last year, but the company said it had difficulties getting planning consent for enough sites following a tightening of the plan-

forced to cut prices. The averfrom £58,000 to £59,600, but only because there was an in-crease in the number of higher priced three and four bedroom son Connolly, one of the industry's more highly regarded companies, follows disappoint-

In order to push sales, and cause the group continued to

chew the incentives Q

housebuilders increasingly

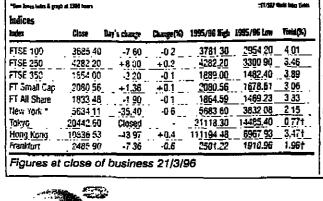
to tempt buyers, the group

ing announcements from other gage tax relief and the lack of which recently decided to pul-fiscal support for the housing out of new housebuilding alto out of new housebuilding alt gether, swapping its assets for Wimpey's construction and According to Wilson, the changes in the structure of the number of completions fell to housing market in recent years 3,870 from 1994's 4,200. Ana are unparalleled for several

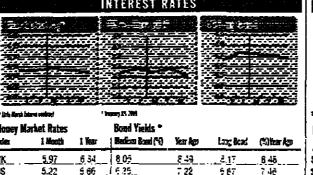
decades: "The metamorphosis cannot be measured on an annual basis but will result in a small group of highly profes-sional housing developers, of which we shall be a part." Investment column, page 24-9)

• Futures: Traded options that won't break the bank Insurance: The demise of 'knock for knock'

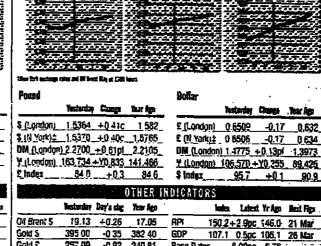
· Council tax: Getting the right valuation Share dealing: On the Crest of a wave...



STOCK MARKETS



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The rights and wrongs of each case must be judged individually, but the cumulative effect of the headlines is likely to be serious stuff for the Government in the run-up to the election'

Fat cats stalk Britain's boardrooms again Executive pay in Britain seems as inex-tricably linked to what is happening in essentially managers. In Sir Richard's case.

the US as the stock market is. Business Week this month chronicled how greed in the boardroom was taking off again, just in time to be an awkward issue for the pro-business Republicans as presidential elections

The same thing seems to be happening in Britain. Disclosures so far in the current reporting season suggest another executive pay scandal in the making, Embarrassment in the boardroom at the political and shareholder impact of last year's fat cat scandals seems to have had little impact. This week we have had BP paying out a cool quarter million to Bob Horton, the former chairman who left in 1992, while Commercial Union set a brisk pace in the insurance industry with a 26 per cent rise for John Carter, its chief executive. Then there has been the illtimed verdict of ICI's remuneration committee, which approved a 42 per cent pay rise for Sir Ronald Hampel, chairman of the Cadbury Committee Mark II on corporate governance. Sir Ronald will be reviewing the operation of the Greenbury rules on executive pay, presumably in favour of those who

To cap it all, we now have the £2.1m pay package over 18 months of Sir Richard Sykes, chief executive of Glaxo, accompanied by a juicy performance scheme that could eventually pay out millions more. ment and the woefully ineffectual Office of Fair Trading on many occasions in the past.

it surely would have been right to have awaited the success or otherwise of the Wellcome merger before paying out such wealth.

The rights and wrongs of each case must be judged individually, but the cumulative effect of the headlines is likely to be serious stuff for the Government in the run up to

Fresh voices raised against Mr Murdoch

Regulation seems to have become about the only growth industry in Britain. If there's a problem, regulate it, is the general rule. With so many growing empires jostling for position, it is hardly surprising

they should start to tread on each other's toes. The latest to do so is Don Cruickshank. the telecoms regulator. Now he's trying to gain jurisdiction over Rupert Murdoch, whose interests, though they stretch far and wide, do not yet include telephones. He wants Mr Murdoch's BSkyB to alter the terms on which it supplies the cable indus-try with pay-TV channels, and has so recommended to the Office of Fair Trading. which is investigating the issue.

Mr Murdoch has seen off the US House of Representives, the Australian Government and the woefully ineffectual Office of

has spent the last few years honing his com-bat skills on the mighty BT, forcing prices down and encouraging the competition to flourish. Most recently, he has sought sweeping new powers against anti-competition practices in the telecommunications market.

That, it seems, is not enough to keep him occupied. He now wants to take on Mr Murdoch's stranglehold on the pay-TV market, which in Mr Cruickshank's view is theatening the health of the cable telephony business. His solutions are based on the same interventionist approach he has perfected in his dealings with BT.

Of course, he has no power to impose his remedies on the pay-TV market, but his hard-hitting recommendations to the OFT could nevertheless help set the agenda for change. Not everyone appreciates his zeal for reform. Just ask the Independent Tele-vision Commission. But given how little has been done to date to rein in Mr Murdoch. maybe we should be listening to some fresh. and tough, voices.

The right strategy for Guinness

he instinctive reaction to share buybacks The instinctive reaction to share buybacks is to question what managements are being paid for if it is not to think of ways to invest the cash their companies generate. If

and the famous black stuff than giving shareholders an Easter bonus.

Like most knee-jerk reactions, this one is probably wrong. There is a limit to how much can sensibly be spent on promotion and at £500m last year, with a promised double digit increase this time, Guinness is close to the point at which it starts throwing money at campaigns just because they are there and not because they are likely to generate a decent pay-back. The Cruzcampo debacle is a salutary reminder of what can happen when cash is spent in haste.

Buying back only half the number of shares for which it gained permission at last year's annual meeting is a sensible compromise, leaving the door ajar on the two most widely rumoured corporate deals; acquiring the two-thirds of Moet Hennessy it does not yet own or, less likely, a tilt at struggling Allied Domecq's spirits arm. For the time being, buybacks also remain a highly tax-effective way of delivering value to to big, gross fund shareholders.

Tony Greener, the chairman, has been

reaching the current stockmarket mantra of focus for some time now, so it should come as no surprise that he sees his job as growing the core business as fast as he sensibly can and handing any cash he can't use

Mr Cruickshank may be another matter. He has spent the last few years honing his combat skills on the mighty BT, forcing prices down and encouraging the competition to flourish Most recently he has exactly the forcing Johnnie Walker, Gordon's last strategy. Bernard Arnault of LVMH. right strategy. Bernard Arnault of LVMH.
Guinness's biggest shareholder, may not necessarily agree but then he has a rather different different agenda; eventual control of Guinness's liquor interests.

Expect a hiccup from the mad cow scare

The pound lost half a pfennig and gilts fell I by nearly a point yesterday. An over-re-action to the mad cow scare? The City's instant analysis focussed on the worst case

- all 11m cattle slaughtered, the dairy industry destroyed and no substitution for beef by other British meats. This nightmare scenario is unlikely, but a hiccup in the economy seems

the very least we can expect.

It is impossible to quantify the likely effects until scientists can say how many people might fall ill, until the Government reaches a decision about how many cattle must be slaughtered, until the extent of bans overseas is known - and until British consumers decide whether to abandon beef altogether. The one thing that is certain is that the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement will be higher, by anything between hundreds of millions and billions of pounds. The markets looked at the bottom line - and Guinness has accepted, as it appears to have to that end back to its owners. Clearly this probably got their judgement about right.

Orange set for £2.45bn valuation on float day

Industrial Correspondent

Shares in Orange, the mobile telephony company due for flotation next week, are expected to be priced at the top of the range of 175p to 205p. valuing the company at £2.45bn. The final decision will be announced on Wednesday morning with dealings beginning later that day.

Demand from institutions has exceeded expectations, with applications in for eight times the number of shares available. More than 135,000 prospectuses have been sent on request to small private investors, many of them Orange customers, although no incentives are being offered to particinate in the sale. The retail offer closed last night with the at the end of last month comoffer to institutions running until Monday evening.

Orange, the newest of the four mobile telephone network companies, is owned by Hutchison Whampoa of Hong Kong and British Aerospace. Following the sale of 25 per cent of the shares, Hutchison will

own 50.49 per cent of Orange

and BAe 22.92 per cent.
Orange refuses to say when it will be in profit, but City analysts expect it to break even next year. The proceeds from the sale are likely to be used to repay debt to sharehiders.

Orange has been credited with raising public awareness of mobile telephony with pricing packages aimed at the average person tather than company executives. The company pioneered the notion of bundling a number of "free" call minutes in return for a set monthly charge. It also offers the ability to have two "lines" on one telephone so that some customers can use one for business

share with 443,000 subscribers pared with almost 2.5 million for Vodafone, the leading player, and a similar number for Cellnet. However the company points out that its entire network is digital - which is where the industry's future growth lies. Vodafone now has 500,000 digital subscribers with the re-

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Mobile contender: Hans Snook, Orange's group managing director, says company is determined to compete on quality and value as well as on price

analogue network. The flotation received a boost earlier this year when the Orange has a tiny market

Government opened the way for further expansion of the mobile telephone industry by making available to all four existing operators more capacity on the airwaves. The limited spectrum available makes it increasingly unlikely that a fifth company will be licensed to compete in the mobile market place. Unlike the other newcomer.

mainder still using the older Mercury One-2-One, Orange ily on price rather than on has been taken seriously by Vodafone and Cellnet, both of which are poised to introduce similar types of bundled tariff increasingly innovative pricing packages for the consumer market. However in spite of what appears to be an emerging price war. Orange denies that it will need to drop its charges in response to the challenge from the major players. Hans Snook, Orange's group managing director. said the company would not be

forced into competing primar-

"quality and value for money". There is a view that Orange will nevertheless be forced into as competition continues to bite. Recently the company announced a service which allows customers with two lines on their mobile to make unlimited calls at weekends on one of the lines for 5p per minute. The low-cost deal will be in exchange for an extra monthly fee of £2.50.

will be dealt with. Tax accountants welcomed

the change of heart, but Chris Williams, tax specialist at accountants Pannell Kerr Forster complained yesterday that the timing of the announcement left investors very little time to make use of the concession by selling other assets to make full use of their annual allowance of £6,000 worth of tax-free cap-

CLIFFORD GERMAN

The cash-backs borrowers re-

ceive on special mortgage deals are definitely not liable

to capital gains tax, nor are customer rebates on the list price

of cars, the Inland Revenue ad-

mitted this week after taking

advice from its lawyers.
Any taxpayers who have

been charged CGT on their cashbacks should contact their

tax office to establish how the

assessment and any appeal

current tax year.. The Revenue will shortly publish guidance on circumstances where cashbacks could be liable to income tax, but this

ital gains before the end of the

will escape tax net is more likely to apply to cash- bank, or is taken over by a bank backs received by motor or some other non-mutual or-traders. It is unlikely to affect gauisation however, the cash building society borrowers

Mortgage cash-backs

many thousands of whom have received cashbacks in the last 12-18 months. The Inland Revenue has also clarified the tax treatment of windfall payments building society members re-ceive for approving mergers. takeovers and conversions of their societies from mutual to banking status. Members who

receive a cash bonus for ap-

proving the merger of two

building societies which remain mutuals do have to pay income tax on the windfall. merged with the Northern Rock 18 months ago. The Inland Revenue admitted however that there is no mechadeduct tax at source before: making the payments, and in-

vestors are expected to declare the bonuses voluntarily. If a society converts into a for convert.

and/or shares members receive as a result will be regarded as capital gains not

income. Even cash payments will be regarded as a capital gain and will not be liable to income tax. Shares received as part of a conversion of takeover will become potentially liable to capital gains tax but only if the proceeds exceed the tax-exempt allowance if and when the shares are sold.

Pannell Kerr Forster believes the Inland Revenue can still be challenged on its rul-The last such payment was ing however. Investors are ad-to members of the North of vised to declare such payments England BS when it was on their tax forms, and then challenge any tax which is charged against them.

The Inland Revenue's latest ruling made no mention at all nism for requiring societies to of the loyalty bonuses recently awarded to members by the Britannia Building Society for remaining loyal to a society which does not plan to merge

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IN BRIEF

 House sales in England and Wales dropped 5.000 to 92.000 last month, according to Inland Revenue figures. The figures raised a question mark over widespread predictions of a recovery in the housing market this year. But City analysts dismissed them as a blip on an upward trend. In both November and December, there were 89,000 sales, according to the seasonally adjusted inland Revenue data, climbing to 97,000 in January.

 General Motors said vesterday that 26 of its 29 North American assembly plants remain shut down and 177,775 workers are still idle, despite a tentative agreement reached yesterday with the United Auto Workers in the strike at two brake plants in Dayton, Ohio. Analysts expected the union to ratify the deal and GM said it would make no further comment until the vote was known. Analysts expect it will take about a week for GM to return to full production if the deal is approved, after parts shortages closed down the carmaker's entire U.S. operations in the 17-day strike.

 General Electric's subsidiary GE Engine Services has won a 10-year contract from British Airways worth \$2.3bn for engine overhaul and repairs, the company said yesterday. It said the work will be carried out at its Nantgarw. Wales plant, and engines to be repaired include Rolls-Royce RB211s and Pratt & Whitney JT8 and JT9 engines.

 French and US diplomats played down a looming battle over transatlantic air travei rights vesterday but their posturing showed a new aggressive edge in the ties between old yet often prickly allies. France disclosed that its civil aviation authority was readying reprisals against seven US afflines following Washington's decision to block an increase in Air France's summer service to the United States. The French step followed Washington's rejection on Thursday of Air France's request to add 500 flights, representing 176,000 plane seats, flying from Paris to New York, Los Angeles, Houston and Washington for the peak summer holiday season.

• Fortnum & Mason, the Piccadilly food store, reported record interim profits, up 17 per cent at £2.52m after sales romped ahead 10 per cent to £20.6m. The company said it enjoyed "highly satsfactory pre-Christmas trade which was well ahead of expecations. Fortnums warned, however, that export sales would fall in the second half following an exceptionally strong second period last year. Earnings per share increased from 310p to 362p. The dividend remained at 86p.

 Yorkshire Foods shares rose sharply yesterday after the ingredients and baking group announced a sharp increase in sales and opcrating profits along with bullish growth prospects. Sales increased by more than one-third and shares closed 7p higher at 82p.

SAVE ECE'S ON INTERNATIONAL PHONE CALLS U.S.A. AS LOW AS 10P/MIN 7 DAYS/WEEK

AT LONDON & MANCHESTER 01422 200069 ALL PRICES EX VATIDAL IN CHARGE

Gehe bid referred to UK

MAGNUS GRIMOND

The European Commission vesterday referred scrutiny of the £650m bid by Gehe of Ger-many for Lloyds Chemists back to the UK authorities. The bid now looks certain to be sent before the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, which is already looking at an earlier offer from UniChem, a rival British chemists chain.

In a statement, Karel van Miert, the commissioner in charge of competition policy. Gehe Lloyds and UniChem would have over twothirds of the wholesale market to independent chemists following a merger and the martet share would be significantly higher" in certain regions. They would be the only two wholesalers operating in the whole of the UK and supplying a full range of pharmaceutical products.

Based on the information currently available, regional wholesalers would appear unable to provide a sufficient competitive counterweight to the duopoly pair composed of Gene-Lives and UniChem." The Commission said the present concentration threatened to create a dominant position in the wholesale market. On top of that, it had identified a small number of areas where local pharmacies owned by Gehe in the UK would appear to have a monopoly and with increased vertical integration there was a danger of a dominant position in retailing also being created.

The Commission noted that re-ferral would have the advantage of allowing both bids to be serutinised by the same authority.

BRANCH INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS **CURRENT INTEREST RATES**

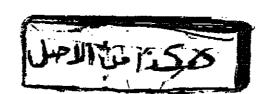
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NORTHERN ROCK



business

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN Edited by TOM STEVENSON

Wilson Connolly still overrated

Wilson Connolly: at a glance

3.93

Share price

in this column at the generous treatment of house-builder Wilson Conset of interim figures. Since then, despite a continued deterioration in the housing market, the shares have nudged curiously higher, so yesterday's 7 per cent tall from 174p to 162.5p, after even worse full-year numbers, was about time.

Wilson Connolly is proof positive of the lethargy of investors, who will often continue supporting a company long after it has become evident that the investment story has changed. The company is still the well run outfit that impressed shareholders in the 1980s. but the environment in which it operates has changed out of all recognition.

Profits for the year to December at £22.5m represented a dramatic collapse from the £38.2m achieved in 1994. They were also well below already reduced expectations of nearer £20m. Earnings per share tumbled from 13.5p to 8.1p. leaving the maintained 4.54p dividend covered, if less than generously.
As the company freely admits 1995

was a talse dawn. The problems persuading house-buyers to part with their eash were also exacerbated by a tightening of the planning process which meant that analysts expectations of 4,200 completions during the year were hadly undershot at 3.870.

That had a double effect on profits because in order to boost flagging volumes. Wilson had to slash prices lower than it would otherwise have done. Lower volumes would be expected to reduce the net margin, through poor overhead recovery, but lower prices hit the gross margin as well.

The bad news is that the outlook for price rises remains as bleak as ever. The bottom end of the market that Wilson occupies, with its three and four-bedroom houses selling for an average of less than £60,000, remains wickedly competitive. This is very much a buy-

House prices are cheaper than ever. say the builders, trotting out the usu-

broker, they are merely more afford- market is still being over generous. Sell. nolly's share price after a disappointing able, an important distinction because cheapness is quickly rectified by an efficient market while affordability can persist for years.

One of the reasons Wilson's share price has remained as resilient as it has over the past year or so is the undoubted financial stability of the company. At the year end the balance sheet sported £33m of net cash.

If the recovery implied by this gloomy backdrop is as gentle as many observers fear, however, then housebuilders should be valued on a very different basis from that currently used by the market. And a p/e of 19 falling to 16, assuming profits of £25m this year and £30m next time, is much too high

Five year record

Dividends per share (pence)

Operating profits

CONSTRUCTION

1995

Turnover (£bn)

Pre-tax profits (Em)

by sector, £m

al price to wages ratios and low mort-gage cost arguments. Actually, says one idend yield of only 3.5 per cent. The

Still questions over McBride

The flotation of McBride, Europe's biggest maker of own-label deter-gents, has left a good deal of egg splat-tered over the new face of SBC Warburg, the blue chip merchant bank which sponsored the issue. Floated at 188p last July, the shares are now languishing at 129p, up 5p yesterday, after a catalogue of woes hit the company last year, forcing it to issue a profits warning in January.

new warning that second half profits would be lower than last year, seemed to reflect relief that first half results were no worse than already much reduced expectations. Pre-tax profits slumped from £14.7m to £8m in the six months to December, hit by the now well publicised problems caused by the hot and humid summer weather, which wreaked havoc in its soap powder plant in Cumbria, and rampaging raw material prices.

McBride has taken action to sort out management in the Barrow and Middleton operations, where last year's difficulties were concentrated, and is set to take another 200 jobs out of the group in the second half, on top of 400 already slated to go over two years at Middleton. The cost of the extra redundancies will depress second half profits, but should bring benefits on top of the £4m annualised returns expected from the shake-up already underway at Middleton. With raw materials either flat or

falling, management is confident the worst is now over and has declared a maiden dividend of 2.25p, in line with the prospectus forecast. But plenty of questions continue to hang over McBride.

It is not entirely clear that everthing that happened last year was due to bad luck. It transpires that the company was already having difficulty meeting demand for conventional powders produced by Barrow in May, well before the realisation dawned in July that the new super-concentrated detergents being made for Sainsbury and Safeway caused clogging in the machines. More seriously, it is now facing a new price war launched by Procter & Gamble, the Fairy Liquid to Ariel giant, which has been suffering market share erosion. Next year is clearly going to remain

competitive. Kleinwort Benson expects profits to recover to £21m this year, rising to £30m next. A 1996-97 multiple of 10 would appear to discount the worst, but this management has a lot to prove. Continue to avoid.

John Willcock CITY DIARY

No trains please, we're keeping to the track

Advisers to the Railtrack sell-off had a terrible time persuading the company to sanction advertising which used pictures of rail tracks without any trains on them. The directors apparently "went ballistic" when they heard of the plan to show rails without trains, but were queitly and firmly told that to show trains as well could be construed as misleading to investors. Does this mean advertising by the train operators should show trains not on tracks? In a meadow, per-

Richard Branson secretly smokes. We can exclusively reveal that a couple of weeks ago the Virgin boss cadged ciggies off journalists at an evening reception to launch Virgin Direct, the personal finance arm of Branson's ever-spreading empire.

Altogether four Silk Cut were "borrowed" off one iournalist. The bearded entrepreneur made sure no photos were taken of him puffing, presumably to maintain his spotless image. It will be interesting to see what rates he sets for smokers with his new life assurance prod-

"Burgered." Thats the state-

Asda cleaned up on Valentine's Day last year by flogging its own-brand washing up liquid, "Passion Fruit", which bore the charming inscription: "Here's your bottle of bubbly with love". This wheeze stole brand leadership from Fairy liquid for a week in Asda stores, according to the company yesterday, as it revealed distinctly unbubbly interims.

afternoon.

The chain also came up with a Christmas version called "Winter Spice" – which was aimed at wives to buy for their husbands – an idea said to have come from Archie Norman, Asda's chief executive.

Empty feeling: Trains could apparently be misleading

of the UK beef producing sector according to a note from James Capel yesterday. HSBC suffered a similar out-break of punitis with "more than a flash in the pan" and high steaks." Elsewhere in London over 1,300 "pan fried fillets of beef topped with celeriac and served in a red wine sauce" were unceremoniously binned at 2.30 in the

Organisers of the Finance & Leasing Association annual dinner at the swish Grosvenor

the Bank of Engaind, stunned the guests by cracking a furniy joke: "There are three kinds of economist: those who can count and those who can't." Meanwhile the macho traders at Nikko Europe laughed in the face of death last night by decamping en masse to a burg-er bar. Where will it all end?

House Hotel replaced them

minute, "because we thought

Eddie George, Governor of

people might be concerned

with chicken at the last

United Newspapers, which owns the Express titles, recently completed an efficiency survey which suggested that the journalists needed a dress code. The slovenly hacks should henceforward be clad in suits for men and pale blouses, dark skirts and tights for women. Very square, said our in-house expert.

RJR Nabisco scotches settlement rumours

DAVID USBORNE

While Philip Morris published full-page newspaper advertisements refuting claims that it manipulates nicotine levels in its cigarettes, its rival RJR Nabisco moved yesterday to play down suggestions that it might seek a global liability settlement to protect itself against future consumer lawsuits.

RJR Nabisco was reacting to remarks attributed to its chief executive officer, Steven Goldstone, published in yesterday's Financial Times, hinting that the company would consider some kind of general settlement and payment of compen-sation in return for immunity be a way on an all-embracing ba-sis to solve the problem once and

statement, RJR Nabisco insisted that it remains determined to contest the legion of lawsuits now pending in the US against the industry. The company, it said. "has no intention of settling any of the litigation in which it is currently involved because it

is confident it will those cases". The cigarette makers were stunned when their ranks were broken last week by Bennett LeBow, owner of the Liggett Group, when he reached out-ofcourt settlements with two big groups suing the industry. In an interview with the Financial Times. Mr Goldstone said that the question was open, "whether there can

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from any future lawsuits. In a for all. I don't know of a way, but I do know that it isn't the kind of thing that the tobacco industry would try to obstruct, because we know that litigation is not good for our companies".

In its advertising blitz, Philip

Morris, meanwhile, was re-Sponding to the allegations of three of its former scientists made public on Monday by the Food and Drug Administration. in which they contended that the company had systematically regulated the levels of nicotine in their cigarette products. The company, which makes the Mariboro brand, plastered newspaper pages with the headline: "What does Philip Morris have to say about the allegation of nicotine manipulation? Plenty."

£60m bids unveiled by GWR MATHEW HORSMAN

GWR, the fast-growing regional radio company, yesterday launched a £24.3m recommended bid for East Anglian Radio, and announced it was an plying to the New Zealand government to buy 75 per cent of Radio New Zealand for a price not to exceed £37.9m.

The balance would be held by New Zealand financial institutions, the company said.

To help finance the two bids, GWR is launching a rights issue to raise as much as £36m. It has already received acceptances representing 63.8 per cent of East Anglian, the company said in a statement yesterday.

The company's shares

dropped 5p to 246p, on news of the rights issue. GWR is offering 10.5541 shares for each East Anglian Radio share, worth £25.50 a share. There is a cash alternative of £23.46 per share. Last year, GWR fought hard to win Chiltern Radio, a competing commercial radio company. It confirmed early this year

t would expand aggressively. both in the UK and overseas. Radio is the fastest growing advertising medium in the UK. according to industry figures. Last year, total advertising revenues grew to £270m, from £220m a year earlier. Audience figures have also moved sharply higher in recent years, overtak-

ing BBC Radio early in 1995. This robust performance has already led to significant consolidation, as bigger groups such as GWR move in on the competition. The Broadcasting Bill is expected to ignite a further wave of takeovers, once national newspapers are allowed to own radio licences outright.

In Brief

 BTR, the diversified industrial group at which Ian Strachan recently took over from Alan Jackson as chief executive, said yesterday it is planning to withdraw from Tarwan. The company is seeking prospective buyers for its holding in China General Group, which in turn has investments in five Taiwanese companies. BTR has reportedly failed to reach targeted earnings in the Far East largely dur to problems at its Taiwanese operations.

• Avonside, the building group, reported a £5.2m loss for 1995, hit by property write-downs and re-organisation costs. The group, which made a £5.5m profit in 1994, said it was not confid West heartland with prices expected to remain under pressure. The final dividend was axed, leaving shareholders with the 1p interim payout, compared to lost year's total dividend of 4.4p.

· CE Heath, the insurance broker, yesterday confirmed the demerger of its computer services division Rebus Group which will be seperately listed on the London Stock Exchange. Each CE Heath shareholder will receive one Rebus Share for each CE Heath share held on 9 April 1996. CE Heath will continue to be listed following the demerger. In order to provide the demerged company with capital, CE Heath will subscribe £4.5 m for up to a maximum of 7.158 million Rebus shares, equating to a maximum of 9.5 per cent of the enlarged share capital of Rebus.

 Wates City of London exchanged contracts yesterday on the previously flagged acquisition of Brittanic Tower from BP. The consideration is in two parts - an upfront payment of £30m fol-lowed by a second instalment which depends on the outcome of Wates's proposed development of the City site. Britannic Tower is the second tallest office building in the City of London with 300,000 square feet of space above ground on a site of over 100,000 square feet. Wates has a range of plans for the site, including shopping, entertainment, eating and leisure facilities.

 British Airways has awarded a 10-contract worth \$2.3bn to General Electric of the US for engine overhauls and repairs. GE said the work would be done at the Nantgarw plant in Wales belonging to its GE Engine Services subsidiary. Engines to be repaired include Rolls-Royce RB211s and Pratt & Whitney JT8 and JT9

 London International, the condom manufacturer, has appointed two new non executive directors. Roger Matthews is group finance director at Compass Group. The other director, Linda Collier, is a consultant and a former corporate finance director at Schroders.

	COMPA	NY RESULT	S	
	Turnover 2	Pre-tax £	eps	Dividend
Avonside (F)	79.0m (83.5m)	-5.2m (5.5m)	-11.82р (8.63р)	1p (4.4p)
Eurovein (I)	17.45m (15.4m)	0.211 (-0.132)	2.7p (-1.7p)	1p (9.51p)
Global Group (F)	119.4m (92.9m)	2911m (213m)	1.51p (1.17p)	0.6p (0.525p)
McBride (I)	243.1m (213.9m)	8m (14.7m) .	3.7p (266.5p)	2.25p
Ustr Ceramic (F)	34.6ca (31.8m)	2.8m (2.4m)	7.7p (6.4p)	3p (2.75p)
Wilson (Cannolly) (F)	233.2m (256.69元)	22.52m (38.2m)	å.1p (13.5p)	4.54p (4.64p)
Yorkshire Food (F)	174.36m (128.5m)	5.91m (5.98m)	19.47p (18.28p)	3.88p (3.52)
(F) - Focal (1) - कांक्रणम				

Notice to Cardholders of Interest Change

The RBS Advanta Visa Card

Due to the change in Base Rate from 6.25% to 6.00%, your RBS Advanta Visa Card interest rate for Purchases and Cash Advances will be reduced accordingly from the first day of next month. Your interest rate margin

over Base Rate remains constant. Condition 5 of your RBS Advanta Visa Card Conditions of Use is varied accordingly. If you have any questions about this change, please call our Customer Service Centre on:

0345 070 070

(calls charged at local rate).

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Revised Interest Rates. Amended Investment and Savings Rates.

Effective from 23rd March, 1996.

	 -	,							
Minimum Investment	Gross*	Gross CAR**	: Net¹						
	<u> </u>		 						
Bonus Builder (Annually) ¹⁷									
£100,000+	6.00%		4.80%						
250,000	5.75%		4,60%						
£20,000	5.50%		4.40%						
£10,000	5.00%	_	4.00%						
£5,000	4.45%	_	3.56%						
		r (Monthly)†							
£100,000+	5.85%	_	4.68%						
£50,000	5.60%		4.48%						
£20,000	5.40%		4.32%						
£10,000	4.90%		3.92%						
£5,000	4.35%	·	3.48%						
		Interest (Ann							
£100,000+	5.00%		4.00%						
£50,000	4.75%	<u> </u>	3.80%						
£20,000	4.50%	- ··· -	3.60%						
£10,000	4.00%		3.20%						
£5,000	3.50%	· -	2.80%						
Britar	nia Monthly	Income (Moi	athly)						
£100,000+	4.85%	4.96%	3,88%						
£50,000	4.60%		·						
		4.70%	3.68%						
£20,000	4,40%	4.49%	3.52%						
£10,000	3.90%	3.97%	3.12%						
£5,000	3.40%	3.45%	2.72%						
£2,500	2.75%	2.78%	2.20%						
Flexi	ole Savings A	ccount (Annu	ally)						
£50,000+	3.60%		2.88%						
£20,000	3.35%	-	2.68%						
£10,000	3.20%		. 2.56%						
£5,000	2.90%	.	2.32%						
£2,500	2.70%	-	2.16%						
£500°	2.50%	-	2.00%						
	LTD (Ar	nually)							
£500+	3.25%		2.60%						
£10	3.00%		2.40%						
		s (Walf Vondo							
		s (Half Yearly							
£1 j	3.00%	3.02%	2.40%						
		sit (Annually)							
£50,000+	4.75%		3.80%						
£25,000	4.50%		3.60%						
£10,000	4.00%	14 14 14	3.20%						
£5,000	3.50%	·· • :	2.80%						
Tax	Exempt Cha	rities (Annual	ly)						
£25,000+	4.50%								
£10,000	4.00%								
£1	3.00%	-							
Tiered Re		Brd Issue (And							
£100,000+	5,75%		4.60%						
£50,000									
	5.50%		4.46%						
£20,000	. 5.25%		4.20%						
£1,000	4.75%		3.80%						
Effective from 1st April, 1996									
Platinum and Flexi-TESSA (Annually)									
Platinum-TE		6.10% TAX FRE							
Flexi-TESS									
<u> </u>	~ <u> </u>	5.70% TAX FRE	<u>E</u>						

5.70% TAX FREE*

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interest Rates

WH Smith climbs on expectations of Our Price sale

WH Smith and, once again, erations such as bookselling Ladbroke Group, dominated the stock market's thinking as what has been an uneventful

week ended on a weary note. In occasionally brisk trading Smith climbed 10p to 447p. The shares are still adrift from the 533p peak hit two years ago but have more than recovered from the 324p touched when the group produced a shock profit warning in May.

Since then Smith, often regarded as smug, has appointed Bill Cockburn, formerly in charge of the Post Office, as chief executive and included in a few fringe changes.

Now, if the market is on the right track, something more at 1925p, highest close for dramatic is planned - the sale more than a year, after touchdramatic is planned - the sale of Our Price music chain and

and newspaper distribution. Drastic action is seen as an urgent necessity as Smith looks

vulnerable to a bid. Thorn EMI and Virgin could be interested in Our Price with Boots, already sitting on 50 per cent of Do-it-All,

the most likely candidate to buy the rest. However, there is a school of thought that Boots would also like to rid itself of its DIY encumbrance and Doit-All could, lock stock and barrel, be sold to a rival operation. Ladbroke retained its position as the market's favourite takeover bet. Another round of busy trading left the shares

MARKET REPORT

DEREK PAIN Stock market reporter of the year

ing mentioned more and more. Turnover topped a billion

A deal makes sense. HHC runs the US chain of Hilton hotels, with Ladbroke embracing the international Hilton portfolio.

Uniting the two branches of the business, with all the administration and marketing benefits it would produce. must look attractive. But HHC is unlikely to want Ladbroke's betting shop, casino and prop-erty interests.

250.5p on vague bid speculation. Sun Alliance, said to be in talks to buy Friends Provident, list early strength to shares with the ±463m Guinand 1.5p down at 575p. ness buy-back through Cazen-Abbey National enjoyed a

ove making a significant strong session with Societe contribution. There was also Generale Strauss Turnbull. forecasting profits of £1,25bn this year and £1,5bn next. The heavy trading in BTR. Prudential Corporation and Northern Foods. shares rose 15p to 575p. Wick-The BSE disaster cut anes, the builders merchants. other 3p from Sims Foods to was little changed at 131p as 19p and impacted on the dairy Mees Pierson Jorecast a near industry with Northern off 5p £10m profit advance to £41m at 199p and Unigate 9p at 457p. this year and £52m in the fol-Hopes of a switch from red to

iowing year.

MAID, one of the market's white meat lifted Bernard

Thorn EMI, on break-up

Ahead lost another 12p to 297p following Thursday's and bid hopes, gained 25p to 1,008p and Vodafone firmed to

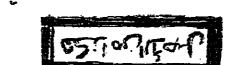
profit warning. Hard pressed Frost, the petrol retailer being squeezed in the war of the forecourts. shot ahead 17p to 133p. Mrs. EM Frost, wife of chairman James Frost, purchased 100,000 shares at 115p; she now has 260,000.

Nurdin & Peacock, the cash and carry group, improved 4p to loop on continuing gossip that SHV, the Dutch investment group which has around 14 per cent, will soon move to push its holding above 50 per cent or even bid for full control SHV is thought to be un-happy with N&P's 'recent performance.

an asbestos insurance settle- tored 28p to 514p. But Go- Clubhaus, the golf business split from the Ex-Lands property group, had a busy session as stockbroker Butterfield placed 33 million shares at 6p. They came from Ex-Lands shareholders who did not want a leisure involvement. The sell-off left Clubhaus a shade

firmer at 6.25p. 🗇 Pan Andean, seeking oil and gas in Bolivia, continues to stretch to new highs, climbing 6p to 69p. BHP, the Australian giant, is expected to make an encouraging report about its seismic study of the Chapare field in the next two weeks. Pan Andean has a 20 per cent interest in Chapare.

of Our Price music chain and the 50 per cent interest in the struggling Do-it-All do-it-your-self operation. Mr Cockburn, it appears, wants to concentrate on the 200-year-old group's core op-	Bass, which has emerged as the most likely buyer of the Carisberg Tetley brewing group, is still regarded as a likely predator. Hilton Hotel	Matthews 14p to 16p, most volatile shares, added 17p to 245p. There was talk of a BSE detection system, improved a further 13p to 165p. T&N remained firm an Inch base went the increase Garage.	Universal Ceramic Materials Universal Ceramic Materials tose 4p to 108p. It is placing shearly 4 million shares at 95p: CENten, the venture capitalist. CENten, the venture capitalist. Sold through stockbroker Becson Gregory 6.4 million shares.
200-year-old group's core op- Aktohelic Benerapson 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 1	Corporation is, however, be- other peak of 4,2013, up 6.9. The contract of the relation of th	The property of the property o	Share Price Data Processor a maturing wrote names among the processor and processor a
Chermicals 197 127 Battorot. 207 25 78 1997 1777 185 198 196 Abrotit 201 10 1 45 507 25 78 1997 1777 185 198 196 Abrotit 201 10 1 45 507 25 78 1997 1777 185 198 196 Abrotit 201 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 1	### ### ### ### ### ### ### ### ### ##	### Code Proc Co	18



Wilson draws the short straw

Swimming

GUY HODGSON reports from Sheffield

British swimming is not so strong that any stipulation about selection will draw too much blood. When the axe fell behind the front two in the 1500 metres in the Optrex Olympic Trials last night, however, a potential medallist was left with gaping internal wounds. lan Wilson, a silver medallist

in the world short course championships last year, was the unlucky man who will not be go-ing to Atlanta this summer after finishing third at Pond's Forge, Sheffield, To compound a miserable day for him, his British record was also taken by Graeme Smith with a time of 15min (13.43sec.)

What hurt more was the second place of Paul Palmer, who will hope to be taking part in three events in Georgia. "I don't know why someone who will be going to Atlanta in the "Hit and 400 also wants to compete in the 1500," Wilson, from Leeds, had said before the race been gazumped after it.

Palmer, realising that an Olympic medal in the 1500m might be a more viable prospect

Mark Blundell is out of the Aus-

tralian IndvCar Grand Prix at

the end of the month following

his spectacular crash in last

weekend's Hollywood Rio 400

The British former Formula

One driver sustained multiple

fractures to his right foot when

brake failure sent his PacWest

Reynard into the wall on the

Bruce McCaw, the PacWest

chief executive, said: "We're

thankful that Mark was not

Motor racing

than in the shorter events, had muscled in on Wilson's distance to take the second qualifying place. It was not even a lose thing. Palmer crushing Wilson by 14 seconds.

The plot was three men go-ing for two places but Smith, a European Championship silver medallist last August, soon made that equation one out of two with a blistering start. A second up after 100 metres, he had stretched that to 10 seconds two-thirds of the way through the race. He was gambling with his stamina but it paid off.

Palmer's tactic had been to hang on to the other two and hope his greater finishing speed would carry him into the top two places. Instead he had to chase the leader, which worked in his favour as Wilson was left in the process. By the end what was potentially the most competitive race in the trials had become a procession, Smith winning by 15 seconds.

Sarah Hardeastle was positively bullish - if that is an acterm in these BSE-ridden days - about her chances in the women's 800m freestyle. "I believe I can win a medal." she said after qualifying to race in Atlanta with a time of 8:38.27 that was eight seconds inside the required time.

Blundell to miss IndyCar race

after he had a chance to get

home and undergo a complete

examination with his doctors, a

decision was made - upon

medical recommendation -

that he should not race in Aus-

tle more time to heal. If any-

thing happened in Australia, the

risk of permanent damage

would be unacceptably high.

We're not willing to take any

any blame for the crash in last

"Mark is going to need a lit-

more seriously injured in what was a terrible crash. However, States. "We have reviewed the

McCaw absolved Blundell of street race of the season." Mc-

year-old from Bracknell returned to the sport in November 1992 was that she saw nothing at the Barcelona Olympics to suggest she would be out of her depth if she resumed a career that had climaxed with two medals in Los Angeles in 1984.

Yesterday, you saw why.

Seven years older than any other woman in the final, she was in a different league as well as a different generation, creating a lead of six seconds at 400 metres and half the pool by the end. As she said: "There is no one coming through to take over from me when I retire."

Mark Foster also won by a large margin given that his dis-tance, 50m freestyle, is as much a reflex action as a race. The Commonwealth Games gold medallist two years ago, and the world short-course champion in 1993, finished nearly half a second ahead of the second-placed Alan Rapley in 22.74,

Sue Rolph, who qualified for the women's 100m freestyle on Thursday, will be doubling up in Georgia after winning the 50m yesterday. The 17-year-old from the City of Newcastle has struck a lucrative vein of form because her 26.15 was her second personal best of the trials. Results, Sporting Digest, page 31

circumstances surrounding the

incident and have concluded

that the cause of the accident

was a mechanical failure, in

which we assume full respon-

sibility. There was no driver er-

Although Blundell will not

compete in Surfers' Paradise on

31 March, he will still travel

with the team to Australia.

"Mark is totally committed to

the team and is disappointed

that he will miss the series' first

ror involved," he said.



Jennifer Capriati in first-round action at the Lipton Championships in Florida yesterday. 'There is nothing like ripping a backhand down the line,' she said

Capriati has faith in her rehabilitation

JOHN ROBERTS reports from Key Biscayne

Having successfully completed the latest match of her comeback. Jennifer Capriati, the embodiment of a prodigy with problems, was asked to reflect on her ado-lescence. "Well, I went through a lot of emotions and feelings and a pretty fun, crazy time," she said. The fun, as we know, was quickly overtaken by disaffec-

tion. Capriati was speaking some 10 miles from Coral Gables, where, in May 1994, she was found in possession of marijuana, and a short distance from Miami Beach, where she spent time in a drug rehabili-tation centre after her arrest. It is proving difficult for her to

live those events down, but she appears to be making a determined effort. "You can't always look back at what you should have done or what would have been better." she said. "You've just got to live in the now."

When the Lipton Championships end here next weekend. Capriati will lose her classification as a teenager (her 20th birthday is on 29 March) and gain a world ranking for the first time in nearly two years.

In order to be placed in the top 100 after her third tournament since returning last month, Capriati must advance to the quarter-finals. She needs to defeat Elena Likhovtseva, ranked No 49, and, if successful, may then have to face Amanda Coetzer, the 10th seed. Further progress could lead to a meeting with Gabriela Sabatini, the No 4 seed, in the fourth round.

The first 20 minutes of Capriati's opening match against Lea Ghirardi-Rubbi, a French left-hander ranked No 86, left spectators as cold as the distinctly unseasonal Florida evening. The American lost the first five games, contributing 14 unforced errors to her oppo-

neut's confidence and winning only two points on serve.

After performing like a

novice, mis-timing shots which were either dumped in the net or flew out of bounds, Capriati proceeded to thrill the Stadium Court crowd with powerful, penetrative tennis reminiscent of her advent on the professional tour, when she soared to No 6 in the world. She won 13 of the next 24 games to win 7-5, 6-1.
"I just told myself to stop

missing and go for it." Capriatisaid. "I was a little nervous at first. I haven't been playing in front of a lot of people, and you can't just go right into that like it is nothing. It turned out to be good. I was having a great time out there, especially the way the crowd was supporting me.

"I never thought I was done with tennis. I knew that it was inside me and it is what I do hest. There is nothing like ripping a backhand down the line." There was a shock yesterday for Martina Hingis, the 15-yearold Swiss, seeded No 11, who was defeated 5-7, 6-1, 6-3 in the first round by Nana Miyagi, a Japan-ese qualifier ranked No 101.

In the men's singles, Britain's Tim Henman advanced to a second-round meeting with Sergi Bruguera, the 10th-seeded former French Open champion, with a 6-2, 6-1 win over Steve Campbell, an American ranked 80 places below him, at No 138. Greg Rusedksi also advanced

to the second round with a Gimelstrob, a wild card from New Jersey, ranked No 293. Rusedski now meets Sweden's Jonas Bjorkman, who is 10 places above him at No 35.

Boris Becker, the No 5 seed, withdrew from the tournament because of a respiratory infection which has troubled him for the past month. His place in the draw was taken by Thomas Nydahl, of Sweden, a "lucky los-

Feherty finds novel approach to bad greens

Golf

ANDY FARRELL reports from Lisbon

A questionnaire at each tour event asks the players to comment on various aspects of the tournament. For the greens, they are asked to state whether their pace is slow, medium or fast, "All of the above," suggested one competitor in the Portuguese Open at Aroeira, "But not necessarily in that order.

"I'll deny saying it." David Fe-

embarrassment of trying to putt.

At that moment, he was five behind the overnight leader. Klas Eriksson, who had ver to begin his round. "His eight under yesterday was extraordinary," Feherty added, "I can't wind keeps blowing, eight under could win." Of course, in the afternoon,

herty said. The Irishman pitched in from 70 yards at the ninth to finish his second round at three under par. "hence avoiding the embarrassment of trying to pun".

Eriksson faltered. Wayne Riley to be continued his good work. To his also been working to tighten his swing. Only last week, in Dubai, did he feel the improvement and he decided to make the trip to

The Scotish Open champion has also been working to tighten his swing. Only last week, in Dubai, did he feel the improvement and he decided to make the trip to

on. Jamie Spence must have come as close as anyone to four over to four under, to be come as close as anyone to the joint leading Englishman with Russell Claydon, portrouses of the point leading Englishman with Russell Claydon.

Fortunders of the point leading Englishman with Russell Claydon.

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Fortunders of the point leading Englishman with Russell Claydon.

Fortunders of the point leading Englishm ing up six birdies. Rilev is clearly doing something well. "I'm keeping the ball on the fair-

> To do so he is utilising the more conservative of his driving around 255 yards, but straight. On a bigger course, he would launch a 275-yarder that would

> > HYPERION

4.55 Three Saints 5.25 Blazing Dove

2.10 Indicator 2.40 Hullo Mary Doll 3.10 Change The Act 3.45 Parsons Boy 4.20 Derring Bridge

Leftshaml, unfulating course, run-in (E7) its.

Course is four miles south-east of Wreslam near junction of A5C) and E5069, Bus service from Wreslam station. ADMISSION: Padiatek \$5,00 urse \$10 under-10s free all envisourses. CAR PARKS

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Kndari (4.40) won at

Unioceter on Salarday, Parsons Boy (3.47) with at Newtotic Co-Monday,
LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Pacific War (2.10), Balltown Blues,
(2.10), Explore Mondial (3.75) & Right's Supprise (4.17), and one sea 23.47 (also by Thomas Paper from Intergratic, Tayade; Northe
Crown (2.10), Pand House (4.15) & Doler Note (5.27) seat (7.0)
makes by Marin Pape from Nicholashayne, Device Cottings Joher (4.16)
& Spures, Tale (3.47) have been seat 147 males by W.A.D. (held from
Arnold, Humbersole.

2.10 PENLEY NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,500 added 2m 1f

0-00-00 ALTHREY ARISTOCRAT (17) F Loy C 6 11 6 Doubted

637212 ISLAND VISION (156) J 0'9144 6 11 12

he decided to make the trip to Portugal only last Saturday.

greens, you are going to have some chances. I'm trying to putt the same as on good greens, but I'm not expecting as many to drop. I can't describe how bad the greens are. It is a shame, because it is such a good course

PORTUGUESE OPEN (Arceira, Lisbon) Early second-round scores (68 or 16 tratess started): 132 W Riey (Aus) 65 f. 137 J Townsend (US) 66 f. 68. 138 R Claydon 66 72; J Spence 72 f6; M Gase 68 70; D Borrego (Spi 67 72 139 G Chalmers (Aus) 69 70; D Feberty 70 69; J Van de Veide (Fr) 74 65; J Gages (Gen 69 70; J Rovero ISo 71 68; J Haegman (Swe) 67 72. 140 M Dews 72 68; P Linhart (Spi 68 72; P Spicand (Swe) 68 72 141. LWestwood 70 71; D Smyth 68 73; A Colusto 72 69; M Turnediff 75 66; T Johnston-(Zuri) 69 72; P-U Johansson (Swe) 71 7; P Lawier 72 69; B Lane 70 71; S Cage 71 70; R Drummond 71 70; M McLean 68 73, 142 D Carter 71 71; P Way 72 70; D Roberson 70 72; S Galiacher 72 70; A Coltan 70 72; M A Jimenez (Spi) 71 71; R Boxal 70 72.

Import row rolls on

Basketbali

A promise of no disciplinary action yesterday led the Budweiser League's moves to calm the storm caused by a players als, all members of the BPA,

Having learned that players ketball Players' Association.

We're very disappointed they petition.

game, but this situation highlights that we plainly need a better relationship with the players." Seven England internation-

boycott of this week's All Star which represents more than 50 Game, writes Duncan Hooper. per cent of league players, hoycotted the game in protest over had considered extending their the League's decision to scrap

protest to this weekend's league games, the League decided to next season. The League and club owners fear an exodus of leading players to richer conti-Mike Smith, the chief exec-nental leagues, and have lifted utive, said: "There is no ques- restrictions to allow more imtion of any disciplinary action. ports into the domestic com-

RACING RESULTS BANGOR drawn not under orders; Rule 4 applies to all

DONCASTER

1.30: 1. HIT OR MISS (10) and (1)-2 fa., 2. Hello Dolly 8-1: 3. Rahona 6-1: 7 ran. >., 5. IM Channon: Tote: £2.60, £1 70, £3.60. Dual Forecast: £13.50 CSF, £22.47 2: 2. Arnhem 13: 2: 3. Ledgondry Line 2: 0. 1. 11 ran. 4:5 (a) Three Hills (5m), 8: 5. P. Charlton: Tota: £7.80: £1.70, £1.80. £4.20 DF: £18.70, CSF £49.38. Tho

2.35: 1. SORBIE TOWER (P. Cochrung: 6-1, 2. Mansab 3-1 far 3, Depiction 16-1 14 ran. 3-; 2 tilles 6 kelloway. Tote: 59 30: £2 70; £1 60; £7 80 DF £11 00 CSR: £25 56, Tim: £421,80, Non Bunners 3.05: 1. SHADIRWAN (Tri) anno 10- in 2.

Note 1. SHADRWAN (*) Junn 1 (b) + 2, 1 Noyan 10-1; 3. Blaze Away 12-1; 4. Upper Mount Clair 6-1 (a) 20 ran. 5, 5, 18. Alemants Totes 118 50, 15.90, 1 ner Mizjan.

3.40: 1. COOL EDGE 12 Potunson: 20-1.

Dannes With Lynton Lad 25-1: 3. Dances With Hooves 33-1. 4. Golden Pound 25-1 21.
 Tana. 7-2 for Visiter Fine Eves. 1. 1. 1/4 Torquens; Tote: £34.80: £7.10, £5.30. £5.60. 55-40-06, £215,60, CSF, \$412,92, Treas:

£13.827 88 Tho: £4.548 30 MRs: Surounk

The Rebell & Samwar, Scrobay (14-1) insti-drawn not under orders; Pule 4 applies to board prices only, deduct 5p in £ 4.10: 1. ANZIO : Pat Eddery: 11-1 2.
Sycamore Lodge 10: 1: 3. Montserrat 12:
1: 4. Castlerea Lad 12: 1. 21 ran. 8-1 p tars Brecongit Lad & Titer -5(n) -4, n): -(1):ss Gay Ketlenayn, Torter -5(1) 90, -2(2):0, -5(2) 70, -5(1):90, 53 90, 96, 5(4):30, -5(5): -5(1):4-65 Tincast: 5(1):283.07, Time: 55(3):30, Non Runner: For The Present.

Jackpot; not won "poot of £71,758 08 to Dor-Placepot: £2,814,10, Quadpot: £134,40, Place 6; £3281,78, Place 5; £1,138,61 HEREFORD

2.10; 1. CASSIOS 807: 0 Gatagren 4-1. 2. Polly Leach 25-1; 3. Najboor Yafooz 5-1, 11 ran, 2-1 far Steef Gern Jün. 6, 11 98 Eddey, Tatte: 55-20; 51.70; 51.90.0, £1.30. 0F £147.80 GSF. £88.38, Treast: £456-35; Tao; £70.90, Non Bunners; 3cta Chartee Brancan

Charle, Pansian.
2.40; I. BALLY CLOVER (P. Farrant: 5.)
2. Ballydougan 16-1; 3. Majors Logacy 51. 13 ran. 5-4 lbs knock-serg. --- 5 - Miss
9 Williams, Totor: 13.10; 5.1.0, 16-10,
£1.10. DF. £33.40. CSF; £40.61. Inc. 3.10; 1. GROUND NUT (G.S.pole: 9-2: 2.

Rain-N-Sun 12-1, 3. Suprame Master 3-137 8 ran. dist, 9. (R Burbler), Tote: £5 80, £1 90, £2 20, £1 40 [16] £43 30 CSF. £1 80, £2 20, £1 40 DR-£50.56 Theast: £173.53. 3.45: 1. WORLD DYRESS (0 Salten 10-11 tot. 2. Hardy Weather 2-1, 3. Sharp Penn 15-1, 9 ran, 12, 15, 16, 16 Hijdman, Tobe: 12, 00; 51, 30, 51, 20, 52, 70, DF 3, 30, 65P 53,84, Tho. 533,50, NBs. Aedian, Kutan, Smart 6n, 533,50, NBs. Aedian, Kutan,

Smart Acr. Taneo Man 4.15; 1.4110 GEORGE: D Galogrer, 13-8 for, 2. Aedean 5.1; 3. Charterforbardware 7-1. 5 ran. dot, dot; if Newcomber Tota: \$2,40; £1.30; £2.50, DF: £5.30 CSF

4.46: 1. CARRY THE CARD ⊕ Gollagner.

bels, ceduct of 5p in the pound. 5.15: 1. JOHNNY-K IR Mass 2. Hills Gamble 10:13. Pred Figgles 7-11. Tran. 9, 13. (O Necholson: Tota: £1.50. £1.5 Placepoi: £18.30. Quadpoi: £3.60. Place 6: £39.06 Place 5: £10.45. KELSO

2.15: 1. RALITSA (L.Wen 100-30: 2. Crystal Gift 3-1-3. Prince Equiname 10-1-11. ran. 7-4-ta. Trace (Wid Days. 2, 5, /M Hammond, Tote: £4-00, £1.80, £1.50, £2.90, £7, £20, 10, £28-30, 2.45: 1. BRIAR'S DELIGHT (L.Wen 5-1,

2.45: 1. BRIAR'S DELIGHT (Web 5-1, 2. Grouse-N-Heather 33-1, 3. Calthness Cloud 5-4 5a, 9 ran, no. 1. ii. R. Allan, Tote: 27-90-21-40, 52-80, 51,40 DF: £289-10. CF: 5.111-98. RP- Just Molly: 3.15: 1. COQUI LANE (D Parker) 11-2: 2. Supreme Soviet 3-1, 3. Brambleberry 9-2-8 ran, 15-8 fm: Cool Luke -4mi, 17a, 2-a. (D Dun-Tote: £9.80, £2.80, £2.00, £1.10, DF. £13-90, £57-£2. 2. Stormy Coral 9-2: 3. All's Allah 9-4 ta. 8 ran, 1-d. 17- iP Bontenin, Tote: £4.30; £1.50, £1.50, DF. 57-10. CSF: £13.08. Thoast £37.68.

4.20: 1, ROYAL JESTER (Ar C. Storey) 4-5-53, 2. Political Issue 16-1: 3. Parkebiz

5 (a), 2. Political Issue 16.1; 3. Pariebiz 10-1 8 ran. 7, 25 (Mrs.) Storey, Tote: £1.80; £1.70, £3.90, £1.10 OF, £13.90 (SF, £1.21) 4.50: 1. TURKISH TOWER (1) Bentley: 13-

2. 2. Current Mony 5-1, 3. Vibrano 33-1. 10 ran, 5-11 fs. Shalow fixer 2, 5, ff. Nicord Tote: 510 50: 51 80, 51 70, £3,40, DF: £22 90 CSF 526.15, Tho: £124.80, E2 90 CSP E36.15, Inc £124.80, 5.20; L MASTER NOVA Princen 1.4 fav. 2. Garbo's Boy 1.2-1; 3. Tough Test 1.2-1. 10 ran. - . Mr - 2. Camachoi, Toter £2.10, £1.10, £3.40, £1.90, DF; £13.70, CSF; £5.85, Tno. £11.30, Quadpot: £24.00, Placepot: £48.10, Quadpot: £24.00, Place 6: £26.43, Place 5: £18.60.

NEWBURY

NEWBURY

1.50: 1. WELGOME CALL U Ostomel 72 lav 2. What's Your Story 4-1: 3. Act of Farth 7-1. 14 ran. 5, 8 (0) Shewboodi, Totes: 54 00; 51-40; 61-40, 62-20 DF, 511-70.
CSF: £15-07. Ino £20:00. NRs: Buffers Boy, French Boy. Quary, House, Supreme Spirit 2-2.5: 1. WEE RIVER U Callagan 17-1: 2Southampton 13-8 (av; 3. James The First 3-1 4 ran. 1., shirted (5 Moore), Totes: £1-10. DF: £2-60. CSF: £5-30.
2.55: 1. THE TOISEACH IT J Murphyl 331, 2. Palosanto 5-1: 3. Fine Ser 33-1: 20
ran, 4-1 lav Just in Ace (4th. 4, 1%, 0) Fanshawer. Totes: £80:00; £1-62.0, £1-70, £22-90. DF, £27-200. CSF: £184-55. NR:

(21 90, DF. £272.90 CSF: £184.55, NR:

25: 1. ST MELLION FARRWAY (R Dun-25: 1. ST MELLION FARRWAY (R Dun-2000); 4-11 (a): 2. Dam Samourai 11-2; 3. Super Gossip 12-1, 3 ran. 5. det (D Pacholson), Tota: £1.20 DF: £1.30, CSF 4.00: 1 AROUND THE HORN IP Hide T-

a. us: L around the number hade 7-2. 2. Nichle Joe 11-2: 3. All For Luck 11-8 fav. 4 ran. 11-, 11- U Grand, Tota: £2.70 DF, £6.70, CSF: £16-94 NPs Pashto & Vise 4.35: 1. CENTAUR EXPRESS (Tibe.) 7-1. 2. Hamilton Sir, 9-4 rt fay; 3. Richellen 9-4 rt fay, 6 ran. : ., 14. rt. Street, 7. Toto: 57 70. £2 50. £1.60. DF: £4.80. CSF £11 35. NR. Verde Line.

Place 8: 5406.95. Place 5: 5233 84

ways," he explained.

see it happening again. If the styles. That means hitting it the wind dropped. Although only be "relatively straight".

"If you hit fairways and

otherwise," he said.

Some things are better slept

on Thursday evening. Had it not gone in, the Kent golfer would have stayed four over with five

3.45 MILES MACADAM NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £5,500 added 3m 110yds

5503- DERROG BLD (347) Lady Susan Brooke 12 11.5 ... Mr & Seemin 4 OVER THE WRIBON (19) J Needham 9 11.6 ... Mr R Thornton PO SAGAVILLE (23) I Norbon 6 11 6 ______ W Pay PBF32P- SQUIRES TALE (299) W Bestel 8 11 6 ._____ A S Smith

- 6 declared -BETTING: evens Parsons Boy, 5-4 Apdra Laval, 10-1 Squires Tale, 18-1 Derring Bad, 20-1 Over The Wirekin, 33-1 Sagaritie

4.20 LIGHTWOOD GREEN HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 3m 3-4323 PRIDE OF MAY (18) (BF) C Festives: 5 11 10 ..., Callegian 605055 FLY BY NORTH (USA) (21) D Nicholson S 11.3....X Alzaura (7) 0-016-5 JBHAD (USA) (15) J Nation 6 10 10 _____E Chilegen (5) 321/273- JAMESTOWN BOY (613) (C) 8 Proces 8 10 B _____Bry Lyons 35-0-06 MY SWAN SONG (15) J Smith 11 10 7 ______S Wyone

| S-1-1-10 | S-1-10 | S-1-1-10 | S-1-10 | S-1-1-10 | S-1-1-10 | S-

 15 declared = Minimum weight 10st True handcap mights Murphaideez 9st 13b, New Tibe 9st 11b, Edemo 9st 7b, PayAv Liber 9st 6b, Rue Ros 9st 3b, Cray Horse Dence 9s 10, Meganunci 9s 10.

BETTING: 7-2 Pride Of May, 5-1 Ry By North, 8-1 Risad, 7-2 Dening Bridge, 8-1 Planter, 10-1 Viscount Tully, 12-1 My Swan Song, 14-1 New Tribe,

4.55 MAELOR MAIDEN CHASE (CLASS E)

ACSP2 BATHMICK BORRE (7) D Williams 9 12 / _____T Sept.

DOFT-4 CAPPAIN STOCKFORD (7) P Wegmann 9 11 7 ______T Sept.

OPP-0 DABALARK (10) R Lee 7 11 7 _______D Fortt (5)

3.30 VINES OF SEVENDAKS BMW HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,100 added 67 -

12 · SOR32 EXPLORE WONDIAL (18) T Diet 5 10 12 ... -12 declared -BETTING: 8-4 Three Saints, 4-1 Seymour Spy, 5-1 Poud House, 6-1 Batt-wick Robbie, 8-1 Haselton Terrace, 9-1 Explore Mondial, 14-1 others 5.25 LEVY BOARD MAIDEN NH FLAT RACE (CLASS H) £1,800 added 2m 1f 6 BLAZINO DOVE (148) R Price 5 11 10 _______ Gary Lewis (3) 05 #115 107 (21) J Norton 5 11 10 ______ E Collegiste (6) OS JOES BURTHDAY (19) P Webber 6 11 10 Mr P Sever (1

Q5P3-FF KHANI LIGHT (17) J Pickering 8 11 7 ...

MONVENTA CITETA O Sherwhoot 5 11 5 _____ Mr A Ha LITTLE WITHOWEN C COVEY 6 11 5 BHO

■Tony Dobbin injured his left shoulder in a heavy fall from Domino Night in the novices' chase at Kelso yesterday. Dobbin gave up his remaining mounts and has also given up his rides at Bangor today as he planned to visit High Barber, a Carlisle-based specialist, last night. Dobbin said: "The physio here at the racecourse does not think there's anything broken. I do not know if I shall be back at Hexham on Monday."

LINGFIELD

HYPERION 2.25 Driftholme 2.55 Mattimeo 3.30 Our Shadee 4.00 Golden Touch 4.35 Hever Golf Eagle 5.10 So intrepid COING: Standard

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low numbers are less to sorrols Equipmek surface lett-lung, slurp untilatur-t comp. Ekarremanne a saadhutte of out, on Phol? Edenbrade med. Ling-field radium station (served by London) Vintuna (adjoint course AD-MISSION: Members 8) - Tationads 20 Sides Fong 85 CAR PARK: Tub 411; remander for

BLINKERED FOR THE FIRST TIME: Belacque (2.2%)2% Further Future (2.2% Margi Boo (2.7% Casino Chipa 2.7%) WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Nome

LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS Society (Eri C. 10) has been and 270 miles from 1. Tournion's Middlenan, stable in North Touladary, Boula Visibel Boy 1. 170 at 1.20 miles from 1 Bethell's Middlehan stable in worth Yorkstare Domoor of 10 went 270 miles from Middlenan stable in North Yorkstare.

2.25 CAMDEN ROAD SELLING HANDICAP (CLASS G) £3,000 added 3YO 1m 4f

2.55 SAINT PIERS MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS F) £3,450 added 3YO 1m

000-5 SPIRAL RYER (21) 11 Later 8.9

4.00 BLACKBERRY LANE HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,100 added 1m 2f 45-402 SOORED LTD 27

45-402 MONREPEY DANCER (AS) 4 Basty - 10 0 Angels Gallinore (7) 2

33:26 SOUTH ENSTERN FRED (S) (CD) in Change 59 13. V Smith 6

22:11- HERR TREGGER (209) (D) (D) D J Scingli 59 9 ... M Festion 7

1.33:31 MR NEVERSIND (F) (E) 6 L Moore 69 7 ... Flynch (S) 4

13:33:31 ROSELLON (S) (FD) (J Archyth) 5 9 3 ... S Vinitive on 4

13:33:31 ROSELLON (S) (FD) (J Archyth 5 9 3 ... S Vinitive on 3

41:53:10 REPOWN (60) (CD) Lod Humgion 49 1 ... M Hamy (S) 5

30:50:22 GOLDEN TOUCH (7) (SP) N (CALGISTA 48 4 ... P NoCable (3) 1

4400-20 REPORT SINGER (S) REPORT 5 8 3 9 Deficield 8

- 9 Gectard -SETTING: 3-1 Mr Neversebut, 9-2 Herr Trigger, 5-1 Colden Touch, 6-1 Kem-royev Dameer, Renown, 7-1 Wild Palm, 8-1 Robellion, 10-1 others

4.35 LINCOLNS MEAD HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,200 added 3YO 1m

463000- SPIBRO LEVELY (136) A Janes 7 11 ______N Adems 5

7 Secioned – BETTING: 3-1 Ben'A'vachei Boy, 4-1 Lady Dignity, 9-2 Rowlandso 5-1 Hever Golf Engle, 6-1 Demoor, Tahya, 22-1 Splint Lavely

5.10 HARE LANE LIMITED STAKES (CLASS F) 00-310 BARBACH (Z3) (CD) (BF) A Moore 4.9.8 ______ Candy Moore 7.
24:2301 FORT (MOX (5) (CD) R M Flower 5.9.8 _______ D Bleek 5.
4006-1. 50 WEREP D (B) 1 M Brodey 8.9.8 ______ S Presents (3) 2.
205006 DISTARI DIMASTY (Z3) (C) B Pance 6.9.6 ______ M Moleck 1.
300-005 THORSWAMA, (28) J Brodey 5.9.3 ______ A Dody 65.4
02:8320 ABANI FORCERER (ISS) (1 Moore 3.8.2 ______ F Lynch (6) 3.
12:6330 MOMBRING SURPRISE (LTT) A Linux 3.8.2 ______ J Tate 8.
6-54325 SOCIETY GRIL (14) (D) C Trombo 3.8.2 _____ G Datfield 6.
— 8 decimed -

BETTING: 8-4 So interpld. 11-4 Port Next., 4-1 Barbason, 5-1 Society, Birl. 7-1 Again Together, 8-1 Morning Surprise, 15-1 others

paith it avoured by draw

WWG S GREATE

Marie DIREC

NOUR OWN P

pdated daily

Markong 0171 393

4 tax 0:71 393 2530 at 0171 233

·

holes of his first round to play. Yesterday, he picked up another two birdies in those five holes, before adding a second round of 66. Pride of place went to a putt from 30 feet at the sec-

ond that dived underground. In 24 holes he had improved from

000 MELLERS COLDENGERL (15) 1/15 S Smeth 5 11 1 Richard Guest

– 18 declared – SETTING: 5-2 Indicator, 4-1 Island Vision, 6-1 Belle Rose, 13-2 Chiparus, 8-1 Luwful Love, 10-1 Coltago Joher, Pacific War, 12-1 others

2.40 CROSS LANES CONDITIONALS SELLING HCAP HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,800 added

P-2142 BUCKLEY BOTS (7) (D) A Saley 5 11 7 ... D Firmegan (S) 237-60 TEMS SCRAMBLE (21) (D) 8 Saley 7 11 5 ... L Aspell (3) 95-27 BOLTROSE (216) 10 Stee 6 11 6 ... A McChrath (3) (O/SP-0 BRISES LED (280) 1 Sector 7 11 4 ... A Manners (S)

25-0500 ALICANTE (18) IC) D VeCan 9 10 0 _____ D Walsh 20000 CHOWPOR (7) A Carol 5 10 0 _____ T Descensible 700 LOCH MARRIER (15) 5 Cempon 4 10 0 _____ M Lane (5) 9:0000 MUSICAL VOCATION (3) 8 Prace 5 10 0 _____ F Leiby

um on grat 19ct. True handkap weights Aksame 9st 13th, Chompor 9st om Warner Sci Eth, Musical Vacaron 9st 4th

BESTING: 9-2 kadari, 5-1 Mitemetriles, 6-1 Bookley Boys, 8-1 Orchidar-na. 10-1 Orchidarna, Hello Mary Oull, 12-1 Busheir, 14-1 George Lane, 16-1 others

3.10 ALTHREY WOODHOUSE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C) £6,500 2m 4f 110yds

- 3 declared -

1 212 (70) MEDIANN (9) C Brost 10 11 10

Months are the True harmons, weight The Toasier Set 13th SETTING: 7-4 The Toasier, 15-8 Change The Act, 5-2 Mediates

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Faith is favoured by draw

GREG WOOD-

Soft ground and firm predicrace like the Lincoln, but as odds are too good to miss. punters face up to the annual drawn towards the stands' side number is into double figures -

are as good as beaten before the

starter reaches for his button. History, both distant and ex-should also go close. tremely recent, allows no other conclusion. The two most recent runnings of the Lincoln on soft ground both produced a winner on the far side, while the evidence of yesterday's Spring Mile was conclusive. While most riders decided, puzzlingly, to go down the stands' side, and ap-peared to be well ahead at halfway, the remainder eventually finished a long way clear. Horses from stalls two, one, seven and three filled the first four places, and Sharp Prospect, the antepost favourite who will start from number 14, immediately started a walk in the market which

will surely continue today. A further statistic is worth considering before anyone opts for one of the market leaders. which is that only 10 per cent of Lincoln winners have finished in the first three in their previous outing. This does not mean we can simply strike out all those which do qualify, but it is another sign that fancied horses do not perform well in this race. the last eight years were 16-1 chances, and while refusing to bet is the sensible option, anyone who wants to play should do so to small stakes at large odds.

The apparent advantage of a low draw has started a round of price-cutting, but strangely one runner with soft-ground form, a leading trainer and a liking for a straight mile is still available at 25-1 this morning.

frantic than today's assignment, and while his final run last year was a little disappointing, he had previously finished tourth in the Cambridgeshire. From his numtions are rarely a dependable ber five draw, a prominent combination, not least before a showing must be likely, and the

The remainder of Doncaster's enigma that is the Flat season's card is uninspiring, although first big handicap, one thing seems clear. Runners who are runner in the 12-furling conditions event after two easy wins - indeed, all those whose box on the all-weather. Daraydan (4.15) may be too good for him today, however, while Carranita (4.45) and Beas River (2.30)

> Newbury's jumps card is pre-dictably diminished by its proximity to the year's two big Festival meetings, but the fields

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Do Be Brief (Newbury 100) NB: Supreme Lady (Newbury 2.00)

are strong even if the quality is not. The feature event, the Hoechst Panacur Novices' Hurdle Final for mares, can fall to SUPREME LADY (nap 2.00). for whom today's conditions will be ideal, and Teinein (next best

1.30) is another to support.

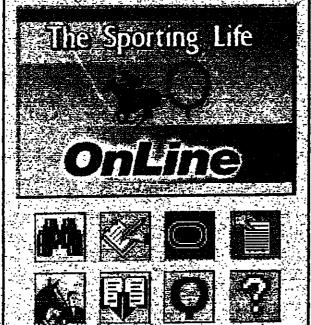
Some of the crowd will be drifting home as the concluding bumper is run, but not Ferdy Murphy. The trainer was infu riated that French Holly was denied a run in Chehenham's Festival Bumper by the handicapper's ungenerous estimate of his ability. Murphy believes that French Holly would have stood The shortest-priced winners in a major chance, so he will need to win today's bumper in style.

Adrian Maguire, the punters' favourite, is again absent today, but will see a specialist on Monday and hopes to return to the saddle on Wednesday, 24 hours before the start of Aintree. Another well-known figure is

preparing to depart the stage. Guy Harwood, who prepared Dancing Brave and many other top-class winners such as To-It is almost three years since Agori-Mou and Ile De Chypre Show Faith (3.40) won the Bri-during the 1980s, has antannia Handicap at Royal As- nounced that he will pass his licot, an eight-furlong charge cence on to his daughter. which is, if anything, even more Amanda, at the campaign's end.

LINCOLN	HANDICAP	- 10-YEA	R TALE
			92 93 94 95
Fate of the favourities:	2 9 8	12 13 20	11/17 20 9 18
Winner's place in beiting			
Sharing prices:			
Ages			
Profit or loss to \$1 stal	ac Favouilles E10	JG. Second Fee	ourites-£5 00 -3
Percentage of winders			% (1.50) (1.50)
Shortest priced withour	Star Or A Guinner 9-1	(1987)	
	A Roung Ministral C	1995%	٠٠. د
Top trainer. No trainer.			
Top lockey. No noer has	Red naz uses indes t	ien once in the pas	10 years

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DONCASTER

HYPERION 2.00 Kingsinger 4.15 Right Win

4.45 Cool Jazz (nb) 230 Le Sport 3.00 Achame 5.15 Frontmen 3.40 SHINEROLLA (nap) GOING: Good to Soft (Soft in places).

STALLS: Struck course - stand ' subs Read course - prode, literal rate - autour DRAW ADMANTAGE: Los numbers less on seant rolle più
Lett-barri, peny-chaped course with 1 mile scraph.

Coursel riching scalers testwork in function, but a Carest. ADMISSON: Clerk Mr. Grandssand & 10 Family Engagement 54 (under-lies free all englescence). CAR PARRE: Fro-

LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: B Hills - 21 wanters from (21 maters at a ratio of 17, the gaving a return to a 21 hard stade of - 502, th. B Hannon - 21 waters, 205 maters, 9 24%, 426 (5, H Ceell 19 wanters, 77 maters 21.7% + 50 (c) M B Stante - 19 witness, 93 maters, 20 1% + 50, 56, J Dunlop 17 waters, 107 maters, 15 96 +510.9%, Mrs M Reveley - 15 wappers, 140 minutes, 11.9%, 546.2% J Berry - 12 wap-ficts, 111 minutes, 12,7% +530.00

BURADING JOCKEYS: Pat Eddery - '11 waters, 183 rates, 1630-c, -22-64 K Der-ley - 31 waters, 213 rates, 150, -217-55 L betters - 21 waters, 104 rates, 1640-c, 128-658, W Carson - 27 waters, 176 rates, 138-6, -230-57, M Hills - 13 waters, 176 rates, 18 Pa, +235-77, W K Swithout - 25 waters, 104 rates, 17 446 +27-56. BLINNERED FIRST TIME, Nove.
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Nov.
LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Sommer (2,00) are best well 2/7 takes from A homospile's

20	GREY FRIARS MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES	CI ASS DI FA 550
2.0	added 2YO 5f Penalty Value £3,527	. (
1	NERVOUS REX diames Payor, N. May E.S.	JReld 1
2	MAGCELE GARAGE FIRSTON 235	K Darley 9
3	NINGSINGER Major to Michael A Charles 5	
4	FAM OF VENT-LICA CONTROL ROD OF CASH A 5	C Nodeson 7
5	HIGHLAND PASS RIP Care M. McCarrant 8.5	R Cochrage 3
6	CLASSIC PARTYGOER AS SEPTIME BETTER & 4	M Bizz 10
7	MAGICAL TRACE TAK IN THE SHAPE SALL THE	A Cart 1:
8	MAMRO U CONT. Seg 8	Le Totholl 6
9	SPONDULIOS Brigate San (20 9) 2007 8	Dane (Chieff /5) 2
10	RISKY FUCKT (Mis Steel Outer, 45~7 83	D Harrison S
11 12	SEMMIS DECRETE SHOW A Secretar \$3	Land I
77	LUCIBCO Att. D Wester & Total - 8.1	

12 IUCIBOD Att D'Argo, Nimber 61 5 Carter 8 - 12 declared - 12 declared - 8ETIBRE 3-1 Majora, 7-2 Magical Rame, 4-1 Spondatche, 6-1 Magicalger, 7-1 Nervous Ren, 10-1 Fee of Vent Ada, 12-1 Nigdand Pass, 14-1 others 1986: Nuston 42 8 6 F Roton 15-1 To McMataon 13 co

2.30 MARK THOMAS CHIM SPECIAL HANDICAP (CLASS D) £6,000 added 3YO 7f Penalty Value £4,854

2.30 added 3YO 7f Penalty Value £4,854

1 3332: REGIR HELS (171) A 1 Stymen 1 Duron 97 W Carson 13
2 1 (51)2 LE STORT (8) (0) (8F) Surp Letting 1 (11 to \$0.0) 96 Diligion (17) No. Serve, R Not Trick 91 L Dettin 2
4 0.2516 FIRST MATE (24) 98 dourng 1 8 Sourng 6 12 Strepes (5) 11
5 30522: CRUSHARM (162) North Strepe 1 11 Larnol 6
6 3003 BEAS ROVER (153) A 1 of Viction W Vic 2 (3) I Source (5) 1 Route (7) 1
9 600-59 NOWE (122) R Harmon Research D. Duron 6 10 Matther (7) 1
9 600-59 NOWE (122) R Harmon R Harmon 5 Duron 6 10 Dane O'Nell (5) 14
9 0500 SEAT BROWN (162) Research North 6 10 Dane O'Nell (5) 14
10 0500 SEAT BROWN (162) R A Correct No. 1 Particle 9 A During 4
11 6000 SEATER ALLE (184) (183) P A BOURDOO'D North 6 11 John 3
12 001 255 TRAINE MAGE (52) (9) Green Demons Research 5 R Sourng 6 L A Carbon 5 1 John 3
12 001 255 TRAINE (163) (183) (194) (19

Theatre Magic, who cost only 2,500gs from line Etherngion's yerd ast September but was geided afterwards, has been much improved on the all-meather for Roy Bowrag. Theatre Magic stays beyond a mile but he is a speedy type and may not be at his been on the soft-ish ground on a courter like this Bowring has another storig to his box in the shape of First Mattle and and this scopey trother to the useful Sapormare is another in from the all-meather. If the seems best at Southreell and so his latest immang, at Woherhampton, can probably be overdooked, it could be taking a chance on SEATTLE ALLEY hing the easy ground because his showed potential in an educational first season and will bestanly stay this top and beyond as the year progresses. FORM GUIDE

3.00 DONCASTER SPRING STAKES (CLASS C) £10.000 added 3YO 1m Penalty Value £6.380 MICHARD SSENIES Common Control Court PROJECTION CASE LIST

25420 ACHIEVE (1927 A. T. - ೯ ಎನ್ಎನ್ BETTING, 7-4 Projection, 9-4 Versteilert, 7-2 Aquerre, 5-2 Margon, 12-4 Mayor

1995 J. Ca. 28 12 A Term Livil 200 12 or PROJECTION to do expensivo con monocimiento, in which three control acception on the commitment of the South in a control acception of the control FORM GLIDE

is elig.	Selection: FPOSECTION
3.40 WILLIAM HILL LINCOLN HAN £50,000 added 1st. Penalty V	DICAP (CLASS B) C4
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FORM GUIDE Peter Different in section on transpersors in coroning of endicate conditions its feet bear non-tercable meter in recent ratio. That the former in elevers and eight-formory, ratio, who have in big terest, elaborating in the only ground, the indire hearth in it is to be reconglished who tolk in the the other hand, one middle on the occurs, was incomed in timely by more of workings, nace big file-tas, expecting in the programme, the more helpful due to be recing modelle to the continuence to miss of accidence to the other interests of misses of accidence of accidence and otherwise always is offer that the file-task file to the continuence with term accidence. The statute is to continue when well in providence from a king each value to subtract a file-task file in statute. The statute is not to be found to factor whom want a different dampination which is liveaut a continuence to find that is liveaut a continuence is filed to the each of the factor as the continuence of the modelle of the statute and the factor as the continuence of the factor and the continuence of the factor as the continuence of the factor and the continuence of the continuence of the factor and the continuence of the conti narradate at Wokema thorn and thorn and a specified with instangithm over that moderate that Sharp Prospect in mode and but not read in our read motion from the great methods and the has made the bug-rade cut and the road a dot going for the Helphane to Moder. This time he has made the bug-rade cut and the road a dot going for the Helphane to the road to stop the second and the road a dot going for the Helphane to the second that has been the following that and knywee has a former and road with any while Welton Americal second finds much off the conduction for the road and than bottop do second the Hunting to have a second and the road and the second second second and the road and the and this game flavinger on a significant or the bulk Period Darker ones not not built this but has a decent crartie or BBBy Bushwadker 11 ftm; Revelle's useful thankcapper, who bises soft gound, can overtime his one. Commande Companion should give Pal Eddery a good not, while Pame Again Secret as season in good from and is a value once. Total Festival Handicap without Night Dance is more certain in the the preciping soft ground than Delta Solicii Selection: SHINEROLLA

1955: Restance Size 4 0.6 % A formant 16-1 in Martieut 10 or PRESIGNED.

Programment continues to progress yet has surely better off more than he can chew this time. That looked the case with the morbie TEINEIN after he had finished a moderate bound behind keep Me in Mind in a Windoment handway in Jerushy, but that was a stowy-run more and thereit be plearly of pace here with at least had finished a moderate bound solved a very progressive jourgage hours to Mindoment and the bounced straight back when going under a short head to Diversimento and a good mousely hourse at Chestisma. I obringing ago, battling book gamest, after coking beater, hadway up the run-in. He has scope for further improvement. Rangistoid Pet ran out, a ready winner under a big weight from Tejado Gold and Twice A Nighstoid Pet ran out, a ready winner under a big weight from Tejado Gold and Twice A Nighstoid Pet ran out, a ready winner under a big weight from Tejado Gold and Twice A Nighstoid Pet ran out, a ready winner under a big weight from Tejado Gold ward of the Source and stance three Levels ago and went well for a long way off a 5th higher man behind Amarico in Stance Brock weighted to confirm that earlier form. Tejado Gold went on to Snish a creditable several in the County Hurdle of Chellentham, where Raddistrof was not at that the behald in territ place after doing a for of the donkey work. It is asking a lot of Taroudamit to reproduce his second to Source Silk at Antiree last year with only one not under his best since, and at good form as Star Market is in at present he is having this action to the consecrably.

2.00 HOECHST MARES 'NH' NOVICE HURDLE FINAL BBC1 (HANDICAP) (CLASS C) £15,000 added 2m 5f

4.15 MIDLAND COPYING DONCASTER SHIELD STAKES C4 153120 HM15H (15A) (240) (C) 20 minor 4 (Values (1942 4.5.4 W Carron 2

BETTI's 6: 5-2 % get Win, 3-1 Decaydar, 7-2 Javanh, 4-1 tonus, 10-1 Penny & Day, Raushow Top,

20-1 Lapac West 1995: Final April 1981: 4 (1981) Dimen (1992) Gazeri (1995) FORM GUIDE

RICHT WIN A MITTURE OUTSITE AND CONTINUES OF SOURCE MARTIN HAVE COME FROM maint were the main fruit in and training as a factor region have done from come come to use must use in the most restance. You time present to have bring and, or course, has feet on a case and the time is given operant to him. But it is proported to assess Rainbow Top who are an indicate the session to the Secretary of time, but it is proported by a long way of the proported to the Secretary of Lingdown from March to Omobie, taking the Secretary of the Lingdown form. March to Omobie, taking to the course of the secretary of the secretary of the course of the secretary of the secreta these enterior countries along a minograph the answeather as well as forn the contented races and the A.S. Curto Shape of an Europe of the adversariant by when the displayment of Shape of the Shape of th

4.45 CAMMIDGE TROPHY (CLASS A) (Listed Race) C4 | 151000 | 1517,000 | added 6f Penalty Value £12,648 |
| 151000 | 1517,000 | added 6f Penalty Value £12,648 | 8 Doyle 1 |
| 151000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 | 1517,000 |

FORM GUIDE

HARD TO FIGURE trugst be a temperated with insisted options, but it is early to imagine positive training from in good circle for the Littled spirit. This horse carried fer 10th one truch in the 10th Ayr Gold Cup year before the winner. Dering Destiny and with Carronation 36th and it was great to beat both the again ran well in that race last year, as well as in other top trumplants. He also with a Listled spirit at Newbory, Montendre is fought and both to post for hydroxia. He also with a Listled spirit at Newbory, Montendre is fought and both to post for hydroxian with the should figure along with Domitila types well fresh, and Cool Jazz, who dry a cook in distance might need before ground, but could be the proof of the principles of the principles.

Selection: HARD TO FIGURE

5.15 SOUTH YORKSHIRE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,100 added 370 6f Penalty Value £3,883 NO HUMBAS PLACE (ZELL, Variant Astronom & Harouty 90 J. Stack (Z) 13
PROUD BOOK Stack of Stack (Z) 14 Stack (Z) 14
PROUD BOOK Stack of Stack (Z) 15 Stack (Z) 15

EETTING: 5-2 Green Barrins, 4-1 Magic Mad, 6-1 Straft, Proud Look, 8-1 No Hiding Place, 10-1 Loose Talk, Spotted Eagle, 12-1 others 1995: Foto 3 9 0 A Carson 6-1 -P Walker - 20 '00'

FORM GUIDE

There is improvement in Sihafi who have a not mustic and ran free early but then kept on well when second to Victima Regal in a 1764 induces late last year. He can go close, but Green Barries and Magic Mail are orders to not on last years form Sulf, it would be a log missione simply to rule out the reacomers and PROUD LOOK and Loose Talk are two there are good reports of Proud Look is by former top sprinter Dayjur out of a sister to small middle distance many Dahlia Selection: PROUD LOOP

NEWBURY

1.00 Do Be Brief 1.30 Kingsfold Pet 2.35 Dream Ride

HYPERION 3.05 Cookee 3.35 Peace Lord

GOING: Chases - Suft; Hurdles - Heavy.

■ Left-hand course with stiff fences.
■ Course is 6E of town near A34. Railway station (service from London, Paddington) adjust course. ADMISSION: Members \$13; Tatteroalls \$8; Silver Ring \$3 (UAPs half price).
CAR PARK: Free; Plenic area \$3 per car plus \$3 per person.

LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: D Nicholson—27 winners from 116 runners gives a success ratio of 23.5% and a less to a \$1 level stake of \$19.61: N Henderson—25 winners, 116 runners, 21.6%, -52.61. O Sherwood—19 winners, 77 runners, 24.7%, \$12.14; M Fipe—18 winners, \$21.6%, -52.46.

LEADING JOCKEYS: J Osborne—42 winners from 166 runners gives a success ratio of 25.5% and a loss to a \$1 keel stake of \$7.21: R Damwoody—39 winners, 165 minners, 25.2%, -52.43%; A linguiste—20 winners, 129 runners, 15.5%, +52.25; P Holley—16 winners, 77 runners, 19.5%, +52.05.

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Star Market (1:30) won at Hereford on Satur-

day.

LONG-DISTANCE BUNNERS: Copperharet (200) has been sent 362 males by W Kemp from Dana, Borders; Irlah Stamp (1.00), Royal Banker (2.35) & French Holly (4.05) nave been sent 237 miles by F Marphy from Middleham, North Yorkshare.

1.00 BROWN CHAMBERLIN HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS B) £10,000 added 3m Penalty Value £7,064 BC1
1 F-32444 FLYER'S NAP (11) (R J Tory) R 4ther 10 12 0
2 36P-3P5 MERE CLASS (15) (0) 'Wrs P Estury) C Brooks 10 12 0 D Gallagher
3 111F-1S SURY BAY (77) (8F) (Uplants Brootstock) C Brooks 7 11 12
4 1/32148 STRONG MEDICINE (11) (D) (C+ D 8 A SAy K Basey 9 11 7
5 56-11:40 YORKSHIRE GALE (36) [D) 12:1 Keytori J Gafoor 10 11
6 00-1129 TURNING TROX (11) (D) (Mel Daves: 0 Nichoson 9 11 3
7 406213- IRBSH STAMP (332) (D) (P O'Dornel) F Murph, 7 10 13
8 FO-4401 DO BE BREF (18) (CD) (Erryl Brown Mrs J Abrean 11 10 8
9 3112P/ CLAXION GREENÉ (1,060) (D) (Bagove Patrershp) M Pipe 12 10 8
- 9 declared -
RETTING: 11.4 Sunn Rev. 4.1 Turning Tris. 5.1 Do Re Brief, 6.1 Floor's Nov. 4.1 Strong Madienne.

1995 Well Brefer S 10 9 B Powel 1003 of B David 1003 of B Davi

1.30 LAMBOURN HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS B) £7,000 added 2m 110yds Pen Value £5,215

1.00: DO BE BRIEF, who was of-ficially rated 9lb higher in the 1994-95 season, came back to form over this track, trip and going last time and can defy a 6lb rise in the

ratings. With Flyer's Nap and Turn-

1.30: KINGSFOLD PET is 2lb

worse off with Tejano Gold for the 2 length beating he gave him over

his course and distance this month

but is better suited by this going.

this soft ground. Henrietta Knight's

Royal Lodge Stakes at Ascot last September, might be better value than the Newmarket maiden win-ner Projection or Mushahid, whose

best form is on firm ground.

may be the main danger.

000

PORM GUDE

MISS OPTIMIST looked a nutural for the forestable of the state of the hardest Miss Brackhold and Harvest View into less than 2450 better of in the Herbido quartier ran in lesting conditions for the Howard and Table better of in the Herbido quartier ran in lesting conditions for more than those and the confirment that dominon by taking the Wetherth quartier from Hornierta Howard and Tellicherty She chokked the better than of look at Wetherthy in a slowly-run race and the firm stands as as with the number-up, only a pound better in, going on to with a containing bashot over a shorter had stands and, Supremo Lady to undeficated in net too trans feet better, a shorter had stands and some from Order Rose and Miss Brotherts, share after site was put asso, for the following month from Order Rose and Miss Brothers, share after site as put asso, for this format, Miss Brothers and Containing the more than the first open and the soft of the share the share of Supreme Lady and a line though Miss Brothers in the suite of Supreme Lady and a line though Miss Brothers in the suite of Supreme Lady and a line though Miss Brothers in the first that compared to Herberts. She can but a constantial with not an accompany of a much faster rate, Sall By The State star of form with at the logic rate and ran of a containing the sall is also 10th and 6th respectively refer of for firsting omnost ten lengths but in fourth behand Carmets lay and files briskin at Newton Abbot in Januar. After the way Cendwen led Mark Dermits 10 cose hand at hereford (Smith last Salurday she hous a stayer and may not and may not and as a filt per feet.)

2.35 FINAL NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) (DIV I) £4,000 added 2m 110yds Penalty Value £3,155

3.05 MARCH NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,100 added 2m 4f Penalty Value £3,818

BETTING: 13-8 Dark Stranger, 5-2 Coolree, 5-1 Royal Segos, 13-2 Green's Fair, 10-1 Policemans Pride, 12-1 The Brad 1995: Postage Stamp 8 10 8 # Maguire 9-1 : F Murphy, 9 ran

FINAL NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) (DIV II) £4,000 added 2m 110yds Penalty Value £3,136

- 20 declared - BETTING: 4-1 Country Star. 11-2 Rising Dough, 8-1 Informagic, 13-2 The Capitain's Wilsh, 8-1 Abbey Street, 10-1 Crimson King, Peace Lord, 12-1 Harfough Chorus, 16-1 Mayb-Mayb, General Shirley, Plassant Surprise, 25-1 Decem Here, Kraton Garden, Pilgrim's Progress, 23-1 others

4.05 SPRING STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (CLASS H) £2,600 added 2m 110yds Penalty Value £2,626

BETTING: 11-4 French Holly, 5-1 Get Read; 13-2 Danni Lander, 8-1 Indian Delight, 10-1 Edganot Prince, 12-1 Bank Avenue, hory Coaster, Klicarne Gay, Shekels, 14-1 Mr Bojangles, Nearly An Ey Quare Dream's, Royal Raven, 20-1 Moon Devil, Ready Money Creek, Securon Lady, 25-1 others 1995; Internaçor 5-10-13-5 For 7-1-46 Baiceg; 21 ren



ing Trix performing poorly at Chel-tenham and Strong Medicine ansuited by the ground, Suny Bay 3.46: SHINEROLLA, an eyecatching 21/2 lengths third to Pine Ridge Lad over an inadequate seven fur longs on Fibresand at Wolver hampton last month, is superbl drawn, fairly handicapped on his best form for Lynda Ramsden last year and can make the first repay ment on the 40,000 guineas he was bought out of that yard for at the Newmarket Autumn Sales.

2.00: GUINDA has been perform-ing well over an inadequate two mile trip and is certainly suited by 4.15: RIGHT WIN, not disgraced in finishing 12th to Collier Bay in the Champion Hurdle, loves this soft ground and holds a fitness advanpair of Supreme Lady and Tel-licherry are the dangers. DONCASTER 3.00: ACHARNE, who showed he tage over his rivals. handles a yielding surface when a highly respectable 11½ lengths sixth to Mons in the Group Two

4.45; COOL JAZZ, who showed his appreciation of an easy surface when landing a 33-1 shock in the Group 3 Diadem Stakes at Ascot last September, will be hard to beat if in that sort of form.



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Ainslie determined to put on Laser show

here seem to be two main images of yachting to the general public. The general public. The participants either all wear blazers and flannels, are called Rupert. and sip pink gins at Cowes every summer, or atternatively. if they are a little more serious. have long bushy beards, wear thick woodly jumpers, and probably serve up fish fingers to their hungry crew. Ben Ainslie would like it to

be known that, when it comes to the serious stuff, both the above images are now history. For a start, Ainslie is only 19 years old but, despite his age. is seen to be a major contender for an Olympic medal in Atlanta this summer in the Laser class. Not just any medal either, but the shiny one. Tall, lean, determined and fit.

Ainslie's life off the ocean waves is vastly different from what you and I have thought. "Whenever I'm not actually sailing. I run for 90 minutes each

'It's a bit like grand prix racing. There's a lot of bumping. colliding and verbal exchanges'

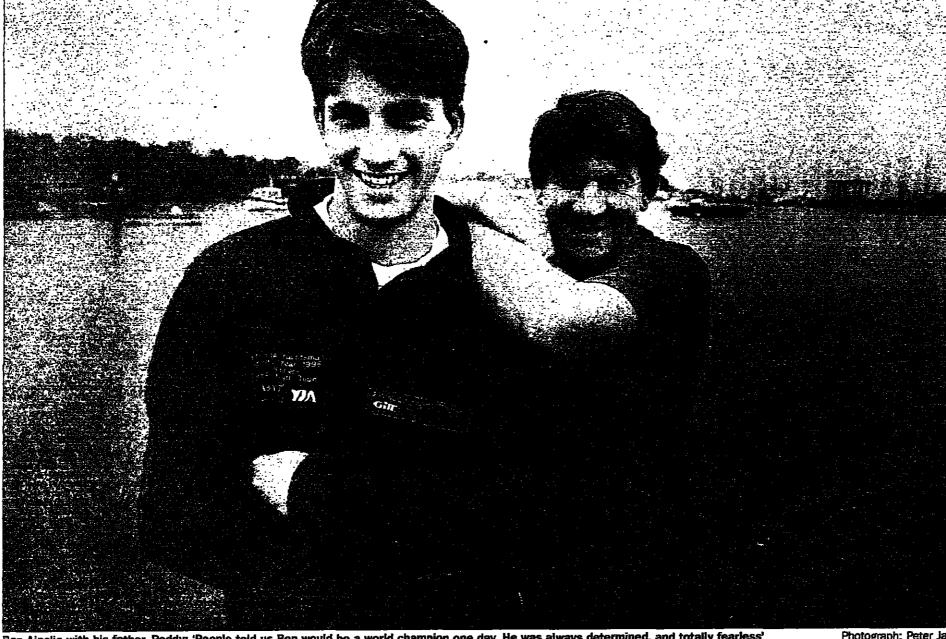
morning, followed by a twohour weights session in the afternoon." he explains, in an understanding and tolerant

"I concentrate on heavy endurance sessions and high intensity heart-rate work. To give yourself the best advantage in a Laser dinghy, you should weigh around 78 kilos. Much less or more, and you will slow vourself down. It's rather like a boxer making the weight. I have a low fat, high carbohydrate diet, and I am very fit because I have to be.

He pauses for a second while this image-shattering information is digested, before adding the coup de grace, "People assume sailing is like playing bowls. I can assure you it isn't.

There's much more. When it names to racing Ainslie, despite his tender years, already has a reputation for taking no pris-oners. He may be softly spoken: sitting in his parents livingroom, but out on the seas, trav-13ft 10in, single-sail dinghy, he of verbal exchanges during becomes a fiercesome com-

aren't personalised," he con- ten seen in this light." tinues. "In other words, we use any event. Nobody has an ini- day. Ben Ainslie might well



Ben Ainslie with his father, Roddy: 'People told us Ben would be a world champion one day. He was always determined, and totally fearless'

Photograph: Peter Jay

tial advantage, because they are all exactly the same. It therefore boils down to who can catch the right winds, and that makes the racing very tactical

How close? "Very. At the Olympics the races will be shorter, lasting about an hour. There will be a lot of changing angles and rounding markers. and I expect a lot of us to be doing it together, in a tight group. I'll definitely be getting stuck in there and fighting my way to the

"It's a bit like grand prix raccompetition, especially if you are seen to be racing aggres-"In the Laser class the boats sively, It's fair to say that I'm of-

It's also fair to say that, dewhatever boat is given to us at spite his little-known name to-

become one of the British stars of the Olympics. He may still be a teenager, making him the voungest member of the British vachting team by some distance, but his sailing curriculum vitae would make a 30-year-old very proud.

The world Laser Radial champion in 1993, Ainslie then leapt up a standard to the Lasers, coming second in the World Youth Championships in 1994, and winning the same ti-tle last year. Initially gearing himself towards the 2000 Svdney Olympics, he suddenly diselling at speeds up to 20 knots. ing. There's a lot of bumping covered that he could more than in his highly manucuvrable. and colliding, and a fair amount mix it with the grown-ups, winning the national Olympic tri- I've seen in 20 years," said Rod al last year, and then the St Carr, the British Olympic sailing Petersburg regatta this year, team manager. He's the most before then recording two sec- talented sailor of his generation." ond places in the Miami Jim Saltonstall, Britain's Olympic Olympic regatta and the Auck- coach, shares this view, "I'm

young man to be feared, and a definite gold medal contender. The point about Laser rac-

ing is that anyone in the top 10 has a chance of winning." Ainslie goes on to explain, "The guy who came second in the World Championships last year finished 120th in the Olympic regatta a fortnight before. But I have to fancy my chances, and even though I have so much time on my side if it doesn't work out in Atlanta, the way I've been performing recently suggests I'm in with a good shout

Others have no doubt. "He's land Olympicsail. On this sort convinced he'll turn into a great of consistent form. Ainslie is a sportsman," is his verdict.

Which makes Ainslie's introduction to the sport even more unlikely. His father, Roddy, was himself a sailor of the highest standard. At the helm of "Second Life", he finished seventh in the inaugural Whit-

to holidaying with his young family aboard their 40ft yawl. Roddy takes up the story. "We'd sailed down from our home back then in north Wales to Cornwall. It was a trip we often made, but this time it went terribly wrong. A lobster pot wrapped itself round the propeller, and we ended up

wrecked on the rocks. We all

had to bale out and watch as the

cruising boat broke up and

bread Round the World Race

in 1973. In later years, he took

That's a bit embarrassing for a Whitbread skipper, isn't it Roddy? "Well, I was OK sailing down the middle, it was just

round the edge where I had problems. The local press all covered the occasion and, as a result, Ben received a phone

It came from a lady who sug-gested the eight-year-old should come and join the local sailing club at Restronguet, on the Fal estuary. Whether she felt his father's sailing example left much to be desired is not known, but it turned out to be a significant moment in the short life of

Young Ben began sailing in Optimists, the children's dinghy, helped by his enthusiastic parents, Roddy and Sue, who he had won his first national title, the junior championships in the Optimists Class, beating snowing." children considerably older

Championships a record four times until, at 15, he moved to

Laser Radials. "We couldn't see it back then, but people at Restronguet were telling us that Ben would become a world champion one day," Roddy adds. "He was always determined, even back then, and totally fearless. At that age, you can understand some of his colleagues being nervous about sailing on rough, Cornish seas. But not Ben."

His son cuts in "I was totalbesotted with sailing. What helped was the fact that I had two friends in the club who were as determined as I was to be the moved down to Cornwall. By 11, best. It created a healthy rival-sailor to the Games, let alone ry. We'd go out sailing in the one who fully expects to return winter months, even when it was with a medal. The name Ben

than him in the process. He took in 1994. Ben put his A-levels on By the end of the first week in

lanta. Spending around £12(90) a year on his sport, Ben just about breaks even by living at home, and gratefully accepts grants from, among others, the Royal Yachting Association and the Sports Aid Foundation. But then again, he does have "Team Ainslie" behind him.

You may notice that the whereabouts of the Ainslie home has not yet been mentioned. This is because it keeps changing. Right now, it is a rented collage in Lymington, just on the southern edge of the New Forest, nut only until the end of this month. Roddy sold his wood products companies, retired early, and now acts as Ben's taxi driver. secretary and second coach, Wherever Ben is sailing, he and his wife set up camp. They have turned themselves into true sporting travellers, wandering the world's coastlines like Berbers in the Sahara. So, while Ben sets off for South Africa, where the World

"I was totally

besotted with sailing. We'd go out sailing in the winter even when it was snowing'

Championships begin on 10 April, an event where he hopes to rubber-stamp his Olympic medal credentials, Roddy and Sue leave for Savannah, Geor-

gia.
The first thing we'll do is drive to the first motel we see before later finding a house to rent for us and Ben right up until af-ter the Games." Roddy explained. "That will be Ben's base for the campaign. Then, when it's all over, we'll return to Lymington and move into the hotel across the road from here until we find somewhere else. It could be anywhere.

That is some commitment. With parents prepared to become nomads for the cause. and with an obvious talent. track records and desire to reach the highest pinnacle of his sport. Ben Ainslie has every right to expect a glorious summer's sailing off the coast of

This country has always enjoyed a good tradition of Olympic success, but never be-Ainslie might not mean very The inevitable was accepted much outside sailing circles. the same title the following hold, turned into a full-time August, however, it could be a year, and entered the World sailor, and set his sights on Atvery different story.

TODAY

Football Matches not on poors coupons: 3 û unless GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE be v Famborough

FA UMBRO TROPHY FOURTH ROUND

Stateschen Total (Martain Futility Median).
Pustinun and Diamonisty (Rev. on APC v.
Gravestand and Normheert Suptinun Total) v.
Stational, Middland Divisional Betwoorth .
Stational, Middland Divisional Betwoorth .
Stational Total Divisional Betwoorth .
Stational Total Stational Contral Martinum time in Total v. Bengmorth, Moor Green - Bitston, Plant Rangers y lung's Lunn Pacang Quin
Fast of v. Dudley Richtwelt v. Sutton Colefield Spanishander of Normheel English Spanish Land FEDERATION GREWERY NORTHERN

3.0 unless stated

Arsenal v Newcastle Bolton v Sheffield Wednesday

Bamsley v Southend Chariton v Stoke Crystal Palace v Portsmouth

UNUET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE First Di-vision: Hadsham v Burgess Hill; Hassocks v Bingmer Horsham v MCA v Arundet; Langney Scorts v Three Binger; Calaviood v Mile Gals, Portfield : Wirtenach; Southwack v Crosbor-ough; Stampo v Pagham, Wick v Eastbourne Town

JEWSON EASTERN LEAGUE Premier Divi-sion: Des e Winder: Falanham v Sudbury Wanderen, Hadleigh v Neumarket; March v Ln.esson, Stevmarket v Hanvoth and Parke-sion; lipitee v Great varmouth: Welton v Hal-slead Whorham v Woodbridge.

HEREWARD UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE Pro-

spencer, stoffold a Bourne GREAT MILLS LEAGUE Premier Division: Bristal Manor Farm v Westburt, Caline v Brid-port; Chippenham v Bedeford, Frome v Bed-vell; Pauton Rovers v Crediton United; Towngton v Emore.

iomigron v Emore.

PRESS AND JOURNAL HIGHLAND LEAGUEBrora Rangers v Harrly; Bucker Tristle. Fort.
William; Fraserburgh v Bign Crty. Paterhead v Deveronale; Rothes v Nam County, Wick Academy v Neith

v Clebraecodom i at Portos Precisiones De So-Summor Finish LEAGUE Premier De Moison: Bangor Finish League, Chtonville v Portadown; Crusaders v Linfeld; Glenavon v Ards, First Desigons Bankdone v Lance Edifynera a Vizan; Distillery v Colorane, Ornagh s Camob.

Today's pools check

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

Nottm Forest v Liverpool 6 West Ham v Manchester City P Postponed uplaying tomorrow, pools panel will adjudicatel. ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE Pre-

19 Brentford v Swansea

siese wromain v Woodbridge.
INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE
Barvell v Hinchier Arthere, Bishenell v Strattone, Bolinnere St. Michaell s. Shepsned
Chamor, Halesowen Harners v Rushall
Olympic Oddbury v Stapenbilt, Pershere v Roceater Solmal v Sandwell Borough; Aest Midhouts, Police v Boterell Solits, Whitenhall v
Chaesenam.

nisraeward บุกการว Countres League Pro-mier Dhissions Boston 1056 v 200000.0 Declaroragh v Stamfort, Evrestrucy v Ster-arts and Lloyds Coldy Par Latan v Notarisch, Lone Buckly v Parsons Mintees Sharistana v Cogenhos; Newton Pagresi v Wellingborough Stiffeet v Raunds; Spalding v Northampton Steriour Stoffold v Bourne

WEEKEND FIXTURE GUIDE

18 Blackpool v Cartiste

20 Bristol Cry v Wresham
21 Chesterfield v Bristol Rovers
22 Crewe v Bradford Cry
22 Hull City v Walsall
24 Oxford Utd v Burnley
25 Brittlerham v Mkoromba 27 Stockport v Brighton 28 Swindon v Peterborough ... 29 York v Notts County THIRD DIVISION

fraid: Holywell v Cwmbran: Portnmadog v Bar-ry (2,30): Rhvi v Alim Lido: Ton Pentre v Birron Ferry, Postponed: Litter Cardiff v Barrigor Crty. BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF RELAND Premier

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION First Division: Luton v Millsvall (2.0). Rugby League SILK CLIT CHALLENGE CUP Semi-finat Brac-ford Bulls v Leeds 12.131 (at Alfred McAlphre stackum, Hustdersfield).

Rugby Union

Rugby Union
PILKINGTON CUP Semi-finals: Bath v Gouceste (3.0). London Irsh v Lacester (2.15).
PILKINGTON SHIELD Semi-finals: Heiston v Welmstorough (3.0). Lat Brightner! Medicals v Oug Ord (2.30) Lat Brightner! Medicals v Oug Ord (2.0). Lat Washed!
COURAGE CLUBS: CHAMPIONSHIP National League Two: Northamoton v Bedford (3.0). Wattonal League Two: Northamoton v Bedford (3.0). National League Three: Morley v Fylce (3.0); Gooy Hampigne (3.0): Reading v Rotenham (3.0): Rotmand v Coverny (3.0): Rossin Park v Rugby (3.0). National League Four: Every v Aspatria (3.0): Leads v Gittor (3.0): Liverpool St Histers v Harant (3.0): London Weish v Pednuth (2.45): Walsall v Plymouth (2.15).

New Minority's Grandson

Langholm (3.6)

Langholm (3.6)

INSURANCE CORPORATION IRISH LEAGUE
INSURANCE CORPORATION IRISH LEAGUE INSURANCE CORPORATION IRISH LEAGUE First Division: Blackoch College 42, 309; Cork Conspanion v Germanen (2,30). Instomans v Bid Viestey (2,30): Shandon v Baymena (2,30). Cong Munster v Carsdowne (2,30). Second Division: Ecchw Rangers v HIFC (2,30); Dungamon v Terrance College (2,30), Malone v Dorohn (2,30): Surgery S Viet. (Centen (2,20)): Wannerers v Grassoner (2,30).

acy system (1998).

CLIB MATCHES: Apigans v. Pasangative (3.0), Barriags a Bishop's Stortfard (3.0); Barristo v. Landon Scottard (3.0); Camborne v. Pentarde (2.30); Edinburgh Academ cach Bractical and Bingse (3.0), Naved Jiveto (3.0), Vendal v. Fortmen (3.0); Lipchied v. Cambi Hill (3.0); Lydney v. Pentarden (3.0); Moscely v. Wordster (3.30); Newcords (3.30); Newcords (3.30); Newcords v. Springer v. Springer v. Springer v. Springer v. Blackmosth (3.0); Springer v. Blackmosth (3.0);

38 Lincoln v Doncaster

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION en v Hibernian ..

44 Kilmarrock v Raith Rovers 46 Rangers v Falkirk

49 Dundermline v St Mirren 50 Marton v Ardne 51 Hamilton v Dundee

NATIONAL LEAGUE Second Divisions Beaston vi Offen and West Wanning (12.0); Buehards vi Doncaster (1.0); Brooklands vi Hardeston Magnet (2.0); Cryol Persmouth i Robinson Magnet (1.0); Frebrands vi Crestin (12.45); Hampsnead and Westmaster is loca (12.30); Odom Unit vi Bromiey (12.0); and Tibery Party: Sheffield vi Citourester Cry (1.0); Storagh vi Edgaston (1.45).

ter Cry (1.0); Sough v Edghaston (1.45); WOMEN'S NATHONAL LEAGUE Premier Division Benderie: V Highwan (2.0); Cirtiga v Bosam Leoester (11.30); Dordaster (3.0) and Leoester (11.30); Dordaster (3.0) and Conductate (12.0); Louseth v Sunternant (2.0); First Division: Brachod Sunternant (2.0); Contenting (1.45); Ecrocoth v Vurbiedon (12.0); Ingland Sucharis (13.0); Second Division: Addige v Wicking (2.0); Ealing v Otton (2.0); Stervard v Loughbordus Students (12.0); St Athars v Peeding (3.0).

WOMEN'S MIDLAND Premier Division: Bedford v Tamword, Comson Rambiers v Pevent; Hortgoot-in-Prien v Balsam Leicester, Policand v Matternal

WOMEN'S NORTH First Division: Newcastle v Don Valley: Porycon v Lizerpool; Shaffield v Callisie; York v BlackCurn,

Gugnester.
WorkEn's SOUTH First Division: Camberley
Windowse H-1; Cry of Portsmouth's Dulwch,
Hampstead and Westminster v Worthing
Southampion's Hending Vindfester v West Win-

rey IRYSPORTS WOMEN'S THREE COUNTRY First Division: Brockned vilvest Wirney, Fam-nam Common it Reading Marton vilcoming, Mont Rommon, Woundards Newton's Oldone Howks: Wycombe Pye I Herrier.

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Derby v Checke (8.0). Trames Valley v Denotister (9.0); Worthing v

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men's First Division manurus Leavois men's First Divisions Carpity Hostangiam (3.0% Coverby v Buy 17.30), Olonan Pocada ev Badran (3.0% Ply-mosth v Ware (1.30% Scient v Stocken (3.0% Women's First Division Northampton v Ply-mosth (5.0% Spe ice hockey BRITISH CHAMPONSHIP PLAY-OFTS Group As Fig. v. Basingstoke (7.15); Nottingham v. Shoffield vel.30); Group B: Certiff v. Novices-Le (6.15); Humbersdie v. Durtam v. 5.45); Pro-motion/relegation play-offic Group A: Brachnel v. Deckum (6.0); Nevn Reynes v. Paulgiors (6.3); Group B: Durtines v. Slough (7.30)

SECOND DIVISION

52 Ayr v Strling
53 Clyde v Montrose
54 East Fife v Stranser
55 Queen of the South v Forfar THIRD DIVISION

- East Stringshire v Oueen's Park ...

FA CARLING PROMERSHIP Manchester Utd v Tottenham (4.0) ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION
Huddersfield v Grimsby (1.0)

Other sports

TOMORROW Football

GREAT NELS LEAGUE Premier Division: Chip-penham v Barrstaple (3.0). 80RD GAIS LEAGUE OF BRELAND Premier Division: Cork City v Athlone (3.15); University College Dublin v Stigo Rovers (3.15). UK. LIVING WOMER'S FA CUP Semi-final: Croydon v Ipsarch (2.0) (at Dublich Hamlet).

Hockey

Basketbali

AFFECTION OF THE PROPERTY OF T Speedway

Other sports SQUASH: Equitable Life Super Series played finals (Hotfield).

PREMIER LEAGUE: Ipsylch v Cradley Heath

COCA-COLA CUP FINAL Leeds v Aston Villa (5.0) (at Wembley Stagium)

Speedway PREMIER LEAGUE: Coverny v Wolverhamp-ton (7.30); Gradley Heath and Stoke v Ipswich (7.30) (et Stoke).

(et Stoke). HIRE TROPHY First leg: Bradford v Hull YORKSHIPE TROPHY FROM WEST CO. (7.30).
CHALLENGE: Swindon v Reading (7.30).

RING: Entish Dlympic thats (Shelfield).

Rugby League

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: England women y France (1.15); England men v India (3.15) (at Maton keynes Scatum). SURREY CUP FINAL: Old Cranteghans v Wok-

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Chester v Newcaste (5 0); Sheffield v Manchaster (6 15); Hemel v Leiceszer (1 30); Lundon v Berningham (5 0). Namona, LEAGUE: Mon's First Division: Oysta Palace v Net Susser (4 0), Women's First Division: Nottingham v Spethome (4 0); Sheffield v Barking and Dagantem (4 0); Tyna and Wear v Plymouth (2 0).

He looks terrified. I've never seen a a champion look less like a champ-ion. New York boding writer as Bruno chimbed into the ring for his world ti-He wasn't as good as 1989 but he was a dam sight better than I thought he was going to be. Frank Brizno on.

> If I'm doing wel, I'm construing to improve, and I'lli fight anyone that they but in front of me. Tyson. I guarantee my name will never be essociated with bowing again. I've hat-ed it since I was 17. Joe Beginer re-tives again after his latest defeat. Next November, seeing England run out without him will be take Trafalgar ... Souare without Nelson's Column. .

Modahl verdict might upstage main attraction

British athletic interest centres Mike Rowbottom on two major issues on Cape Town this weekend, where the International Amateur Athletic Federation counfuture in the sport the day after tomorrow's World Crosscountry Championships in

nearby Stellenbosch. Modahl, who is currently training in Albuquerque, has this week received assurances from the LAAF that they will take into account further scientific evidence established since she had a four-year doping ban lifted on appeal by the British Athletic Federation last Sentember.

Britain's only realistic hope for an individual medal at the championships, Paula Radcliffe, has seen her prospects diminish in the last fortnight as injury and illness have disrupted her preparations.

The 1992 world junior crosscountry champion has missed nearly a week's training following a fall in her last race, and a bout of food poisoning this week has hardly helped. "I don't know how well I'm going to run," she said. "All I know is it won't be as well as I would have hoped." Derartu Tulu, of Ethiopia, is set on retaining the title she won in Durham last year, with two

Kenyans - Sally Barsosio and

to be settled in Cape Town this weekend cil will discuss Diane Modahl's Rose Cheruyiot - her most expected either to clear Modahl likely challengers.

The men's race sees Haile Gebreselassie, who has already broken two world indoor records this season, leading the Ethiopian challenge against the Kenvans, who have won the

men's team event since 1986. Kenya's Paul Tergat is confident, nevertheless, that he will defend his individual title. Tergat, who has set his sights on heating compatriot John Ngugi's record of five world titles, said yesterday: "Defending the world championships is a foregone conclusion."

The British men's team, with their new manager, Dave Clarke, have travelled in the hope of gaining a team medal, something they last did in 1992 when Clarke himself helped earn a bronze. Clarke is now hoping that the likes of Andrew Pearson, Keith

Cullen and the Commonwealth 10,000 metres champion, Rob Denmark, together with "a little bit of magic, can make an impression on a fearsomely strong field in which Portugal and Spain look most likely to impinge upon the normal African domination. IAAF Council members are youd any doubt."

to run - upholding the BAF ap-

peal panel's decision - or refer the case to an arbitration panel. Modahl's case that faulty handling and storage of her urine sample by a Lisbon laboratory caused the huge testosterone levels found in her original test - a. case that convinced the BAF panel - has been strengthened by two pieces of new scientific work since her appeal.

Professor Simon Gaskell, from the University of Manchester Institute of Science and -Technology, has involved samples from Modahl herself in tests showing that overheated storage conditions can lead to dramatic increases in testosterone outside the body.
And Professor Rod Bilton, of Liverpool's John Moores Uni-

levels can rise and fall, undermining accurate and reliable drug testing.

Modahi said: The case against me was always weak. It should never have been brought in the first place. This new ev-

idence should put the matter be-

versity, has proved that in non-

sterile samples, testosterone

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

Jack Romell, the England manager on Will Carling's decision to step down as captain.

If hed about 56 shots - it's about

McManamer of his first goal in a brace that set up Leeppool's 3-0 FA Cup quarter final ven over Leeds. The feel like a granded when I meet up.

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The feel all my selfs as a player. Alexand.

The feel all my selfs as a player. Alexand.

The feel all my selfs as a player. Alexand.

The feel meet up a granded when the feel wanted and the feel all my selfs as a player. Alexand.

The feel like a granded when the feel all meet up a feel a The squad is the of young faces.
It feel like a granded when I meet up with them. I herpool's Mark Witght on his England call-up against Bulgaria.

pricing in this week's St Petershing to immering in Russia.

It was thing on half a store a year and it was getung a title out of hand. Coun afford general, the world No 2-golfer, who has lost weight.

There are no easy answers for duta in our position, and humping the bolf down the middle is certainly ray one of them. Dave Mescrington. The Southampton manager, who is determined mot to change his printered point the mineral or relegation.

No, it's not in our culture. We do?

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Cook hungry for a slice of the Wembley action

between Leeds and Bradford carries a guarantee of fierce local feeling, but for no one will it be a more intense experience than Paul Cook.

The Bradford Bulls' fullback and goal-kicker will line up at Huddersfield this afternoon, intent on blocking the way to Wembley for the regime that gave him his chance and then promptly distarded him a few

months ago.

It has been a remarkable year for Cook, who is still only 19. At first, the arrival of Dean Bell and Hugh McGahan as Leeds' new management team seemed to have given him the opportunity he craved.

team ahead of more seasoned players, and performed so well that he was added to England's squad for the World Cup. No sooner was the ink dry on that entry in his CV, however, than Leeds had packed him off to Bradford in exchange for Carl Hall - a deal that caused some amazement both inside and outside Headingley.

"It came right out of the blue and I couldn't quite believe it at the time," he said. "There's still a bit of shock there but, on the other hand, I'm grateful to Dean and Hugh for giving me my chance. If it wasn't for the start they gave me, I wouldn't be anywhere near a Challenge

my career."

Cook still lives in Leeds and spends most evenings practising the skill that could bring his old club down on enemy territory. "I like to practice kicking for an hour a day, if not at the club then out on a field in Leeds with my brother,"

Important as his marksmanship could be in what promises to be a close match, it is Cook's all-round game that will be watched with the most interest as he develops over the next few years. The word from Headingley after the surprise of his de-parture was that the coaching staff had identified flaws in his technique, especially in defence.

He was promoted to the first Cup semi-final at this stage in Dave Hadfield talks to the Bradford full-back hoping to kick Leeds to defeat in today's Challenge Cup semi-final

> If there is any truth in that assessment, Bradford's coaching staff believe they can straighten him out, through the medium of one-to-one technical sessions that were not part of the routine at Leeds.

"They think nothing here of spending a couple of hours working on your game individually with you," he says. "On top of that, the team spirit here is like nothing I've ever known." If proving that they were wrong to let him go gives Cook one good reason to shine

Wembley history provides another. Twe been there four times - twice with Leeds and twice with England - each time as travelling reserve," he said. "It has been frustrating to go there and not get on to the field and this is my chance to put that

Bradford, as so often, have other former Leeds players in their squad. Paul Medicy arrived. via Halifax, almost seven veurs ago, while Jon Scales made the short journey from Headingley

Brian Smith, might be happier if he could play another ex-Leeds man, the Cup-tied hooker, James Lowes, this afternoon, as well as another recent acquisition, Glen Tomlinson.

Even without them, there is an atmosphere of confidence at Odsal. Smith admits, however: They beat us three times last season and have been to Wemblev for the last two years. They have to be regarded as favourites.

Leeds have lost rather too many important players from their side to look entirely convincing. With Lowes, Craig Innes and Garry Schotield all departed and Tony Kemp

some departments.

George Mann can be surprisingly effective at stand-off. however, and if Kevin Iru is in the mood Bradford will be hard-pressed to stop them mak-ing it three Wembley visits in three years.

Clive Griffiths, the Wales coach and former assistant at Warrington, has been named as coach of the new club in south Wales, Mike Nicholas, the former Wales and Warrington forward who has set up the new club and plans to announce his playing squad soon, said that Griffiths had always been the first choice for the job.



granted a temporary injunction to stop Maurice Lindsay and the players so far signed to Super League setting up a com-petition of their own under the Global League banner. The full bench of the court will consider the matter further on

Second **Division** clubs split from NCA

England's Second Division clubs yesterday resigned en masse from the already emasculated National Clubs' Association. and in a move that may have profound significance threw in their lot with the First Division

clubs, writes Steve Bale. At a stroke they thereby created a still more powerful bloc within - or against, depending on how you view it - the Rugby Football Union as clubs and union confront each other about how the club game, which goes professional in just six weeks' time, is to be financed.

A meeting between the par-ties in London on Thursday, billed as the most important in this increasingly problematic process, reached no agreement other than to meet again next week. Such fundamental issues as contracts and broadcasting revenue still remain to be settled with the last resort being a breakaway, now involving the leading 20 clubs, from the RFU.

What with the mass of the RFU's membership exceeding 2,000 having their say at tomorrow's special general meeting in Birmingham, the forces of disunion in English rugby appear to be in the ascendant at a time when Cliff Brittle, the grass-roots candidate who won the RFU executive chairman, ship at the last, aborted SGM in January, has this very week

publicly appealed for unity. The NCA which formerly had an important role in administering the Courage Championship while acting as a forum for the top 40 clubs, had already been rendered worthless by the resignation before Christmas of the First Division clubs, whose bargaining-power is now more. Sunbury, and given that their powerful than ever.

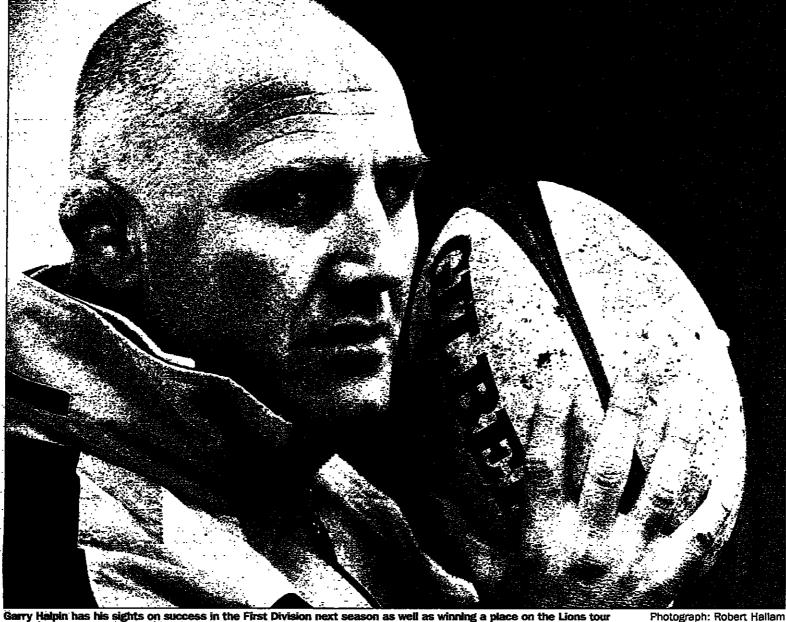
made their decision at a meeting at Moseley on Tuesday but nuent until after Thursday's meeting with the RFU. They will now form their own organisation, parallel with the 10 Pirst Division clubs' one each - in English Professional Clubs Ltd, the company formed to negotiate with broadcasters

and sponsors.

Bristol, yesterday appointed the former England lock Mike Davis, best remembered as the 1980 Grand Slam coach, as assistant coach under the club's new coach and player-development director. Alan Davies. ... himself a former national coach

> TODAY'S NUMBER

The number of golfers who shot a hole in one at the same hole on the same day during a professional tournament in Soja, western Japan, yestertay. The hole so convincing tamed was the par three



ondon Irish do not give themselves a prayer in Cup semi-final against the league champions, Leicester at owerful than ever.

Own priority is the league their
The Second Division clubs expected eventuality would actually suit them fine.

Yet for their captain, this can be seen as the game that justi-fies a decision he estimates to have cost him a five-figure sum. It is some way short of big money in these semi-professional times but by his decision to out out of international rugby for a season - and so concentrate on leading the Irish into the English First Division - it is Garry Halpin's personal sacrifice.

Halpin is not in the major league of well-heeled rugby identities, not as a teacher of geography at St George's College in Addlestown, Surrey, however respected his pedagogical skills may be. But ver man does not ultimately expect to have lost a penny - provided always that London Irish gain the second promotion place after Northampton. So for altruism read an Irish punter's eye for the

main chance.
"By choosing to drop out of the Ireland set-up it's cost me maybe about £12,000," he explained. But put it this way: I would fully intend to make that money up next season. I make no bones about it. If we make the First Division, we have an agreement that I would be made up for this and that's been a big driving thing for me. Ei-ther way, I'll come out of this smiling.

This is no more than straight realism from a genuinely top-rate fellow. Halpin has speculated on his and London Irish's future in the hope - now ex-pectation - of accumulating. If land centre, as chib coach had

Halpin ready to reap his rewards

Steve Bale meets the London Irish captain who faces a twin test of his ambitions in the Pilkington Cup against Leicester today

his prospects of being recalled next season.

A curious thing is that Halpin, 30 last month, should have stepped aside at the very moment he appeared at long last to have secured the place at tight-head prop which was first his in 1990 when he was playing back bome in Dublin for the Wanderers club before crossing the water in 1991. He has since accumulated only 10 caps but as the last three of those were during the 1995 World Cup he approached this season favoured as the man in

It made no difference. "When I see Ireland playing at Twickenham, of course I would love to be playing," he said. "But I never doubted I did the right thing, both for me and for the club. The first thing was I was tired after the World Cup - I just didn't have the ambition and coupled with that there was

the captaincy of London Irish." In this regard the impressive presence of Clive Woodward, it totally committedly or you're no good to him. I very much agree with, and believe in, that philosophy.

"Because of this, everything was very clear for me. I could foresee too much hassle between

'I never doubted I did the right thing, both for me and for the club'

London Irish and the Irish RFU about player-availability and I didn't want to be in the middle of that club-v-country thing, wondering what to do when the IRFU wanted to take me out of important games. If L as captain, had to leave every time, it wouldn't work.

"I'm quite influential in our team. There are a lot of young guys who sort of look up to me, even if it's the first time in my

the Irish's semi-final has the corollary of showing Ireland what they have perforce been missing, so much the better for nothing half-heartedly; you do life anyone's done that. So I was making a statement that I had given up international rugby and this was the level of commitment I was willing to make for the club. They responded."
The result is second place in

the Second Division, two points behind Northampton (who have two games in hand) but more relevantly two ahead of London Scottish with four to play and a vastly superior points-difference. This is why next Saturday's visit to Wakefield is of greater significance to Halpin and his team even than today's showcase occasion.

It is also why the semi-final worries Halpin and Woodward so. On the one hand, players' minds have been so fixed on. and nerves so tight about. Leicester that training has been adversely affected. On the other players' minds are at the same time so fixed on the Wakefield match that the captain fears they may not do themselves justice

"If I had a choice, I would love to play this game after our league campaign. Its timing is appalling from a preparation point of view. We have what we know will be a very physical game this weekend and then

have to go to Wakefield next weekend for another physical game. It bugs me that it's happened this way, that we can't hype this game as we should, and our mental preparation

could be a lot better."

The crowd approaching 7,000 who will fill Sunbury may beg to differ about relative significances but in any case the semifinal should provide the exiles - and Woodward and Halpin in particular - with a vardstick of what to expect next season and how far they will need to go in strengthening a promotion-win-

ning team. To this end an influx of Irish and sundry non-UK players is expected once the First Division has been attained, so on second thoughts perhaps today's exercise will not be such a vardstick after all. Whatever, by next season Halpin hopes (against hope) that the club-v-country issue, which has bedevilled London Irish's relationship with the Irish union, will have been resolved. Then he will be ready

to restake his claim. "I know I've had a chequered international career but I was always very aggrieved at the people they picked ahead of me. In the ability to play rugby I'm as good as anybody there and, internationally, I still have huge goals. I've taken my year out, I'm recharged, and I want to go on the Lions tour to South

Africa next vear. "I may not have that many caps but the only other tight head I would really regard in these islands is Darren Gariorth and if I got a Lions tour, five or 50 caps for Ireland wouldn't matter a damn." The uncapped Garforth, as it happens, plays for Leicester against Halpin today, so you could say the Li-

Leicester not a priority for **London Irish**

To London Irish of the English Second Division this afternoon falls a problem that has this season proved insoluble to all of the First Division, even Bath: how to stop the remorseless, erinding march of Leicester's magnificent forwards, writes Steve Bale.

As this Pilkington Cup semifinal, even though it is on home turf at sold-out Sunbury, is down the list of Exile priorities, even the Irish themselves do not anticipate a solution. Amazing to relate, given the height of its profile, but this is a game they would just as soon not have to play.

Still, if they dispose of all 200 barrels of Guinness on order (one for every 35 people in attendance) the coffers will have been usefully swollen at a time when the Irish, expecting to join Leicester in the First Division. need every last punt, pound and penny in order to finance next season's new professionalism.

Fven if they wanted to reach Twickenham to play the winners of Gloucester's visit to the holders, Bath, it would need more than advance knowledge of how Leicester will play. "If we get tonked at this stage, I wouldn't read too much into it because they've been tonking most teams all season," the Exiles' captain, Garry Halpin, said.

There's nothing hugely special about it. They have a big pack that mashes everybody up. They take a couple of penalties. The opposition are then forced to try to play rugby, forced to make mistakes, Leicester score a try or ality that these great clubs are

two and get a big-margin win.
"It's very basic and they actually don't do a lot, but stopping their basics will be a huge problem." And so it will probably come to pass. Alas for the Irish, Dean Richards is fit to lead the league champions despite having failed to train this week - a

state of affairs that generally suits

the England No 8 very well.

In the other semi-final Bath's annual progress towards the double brings a return to the Rec for Richard Hill, scrum-half in so many of their triumphs but now Gloucester's coaching director. As he has been constantly reminded this week, for the first time since he first played at Bath for Exeter University he must remember to turn left into the visitors' dressing-room.

There is a poignancy here that comes not only from Hill's playing career but from his acrimonious departure from Bath, where he was chairman of selectors until in effect being frozen out of the club last September. His new team have the England A full-back, Mark Mapletoft, fit for the first time in a year - a return that may also do something about Gloucester's goal-kicking

No such worries for Bath, who have been spared the embarrassment of deciding which of Mike Catt or Jonathan Callard to play at full-back by an injury to Richard Butland which leaves Catt no alternative but to revert to outside-half. "Jonathan lands those inevitable early penalties and gives the team the necessary cushion and confidence to play attacking, all-round rugby from the start." Phil de Glanville, the Bath captain, said. One wonders why, then, was he ever dropped.

It is Swalec Cup quarter-final day in Wales, with Cardiff's visit to Llanelli far and away the biggest tie - and in its way a reminder of the uncomfortable reno less disenchanted with the Welsh Rugby Union than the Baths and Leicesters are with their Rugby Football Union.

Unreality, meanwhile, will in trude when the RFU's special meeting in Birmingham tomorrow decides whether to permit the English game to go open. Hang on a minute. didn't that happen everywhere else last September?

will now form their own organisation, parallel with the First Division's, and have a minority stake – two votes between them, to be cast by Sir John Hall of Newcastle and Steve O'Neill of Bedford compared with the

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India are the big draw at Milton Keynes hitting rock bottom in the 1986 changes to their Barcelona Jason Laslett is recovering from

IT COFMIT

не £9.5m National Stadium at ilton Keynes will open its innational gates tomorrow en the England teams play st to India's men and

ance's women. * The invitation to India, with eries of Olympic medals

World Cup in London, when they finished 12th and last, they have clawed their way back and were last year playing in the elite Champions' Irophy in Berlin where they finished in fifth place

one place ahead of England. Encounters with India of late have been very close, with the last four ending in draws. The most recent was 3-3 against Great Britain in the Olympic qualifier in Barcelona. The latching from Amsterdam in & to Munich in 1972, should

serve goalkeeper, Ashlu Ballal.

The captain, the 31-year-old Pargat Singh, from the Punjab Police, with over 200 international appearances, is their most experienced player while the centre-forward Dhanraj Pillay, who had a season in the National League with Indian Gymkhana, is their most exciting.
Unfortunately England are

squad, one of which is their re- a broken ankle, Simon Hazlitt pulled a hamstring in Tuesday's Army Cup final, Russell Garcia, Barcelona's player-coach, has not been released by his Spanish club -and Rob Thompson is

getting married today. The Great Britain players have been excluded from the England women's squad which is captained by Jane Smith for the first time, but should be too without four of their successful strong for a French side lacking the turnstiles clicking. After dian team shows just two Barcelona squad. The captain several familiar names.

Scotsmen reach final **Bowls** The Scots' final opponents

Scotland's Kenny Logan, Willie Wood and George Adrain will contest the first final of the World Bowls Championships in Adelaide tomorrow.

The only British team involved in the semi-finals produced a devastating display against South Africa's Theuns Fraser, Ashley van Winkel and Kevin Campbell to win 23-11, restricting their opponents to counting on just five

will be New Zealand's Andrew Curtain, David File, and Peter Belliss, who scraped home 18-17 against Australia's lan Taylor, Kelvin Kirkow and Stevie Anderson.

Today' pairs semi-finals see the defending champions, Richard Corsie and Alex Marshall from Scotland, take on the home country's Cameron Curtis and Rex Johnson, while Ireland's Jeremy Henry and Sammy Allen meet the Welsh duo Will Thom-

Newc a te:

Level of entertainment in Wilkinson's hands

Football Correspondent

The destiny of tomorrow's Coca-Cola Cup final, and whether it will be worth watching, could well be decided by the

approach of one man. If Howard Wilkinson, the Leeds manager, comes to Wembley prepared to let his team play, they could win their first domestic cup final in 23 years. If he comes seeking to stifle the opposition and filch a result, it could be the worst spectacle since... well, sinc.. Leeds played Liverpool at home in the FA Cup quarter-final a fortnight ago. After that goalless bore. Wilkinson sarcastically sug-

entertained, and lost by three goals". Which is precisely what happened when they went to Anticld for the replay, not that Leeds were any more positive than at Elland Road.

Hopefully that brace of matches will have convinced Wilkinson that his team are better served by having the shackles taken off. They are capable of beating anyone on their day, but those days are increasingly rare and tend to happen when Manchester United are visiting Elland Road.

Wilkinson has enough incentive: this is his first Wembley final in 34 years in the game. "It means an awful lot, one hell of a lot. It's a match I want to win." In Gary McAllister, Leeds

gested his team should have have one of the finest midfielders in the country; in Tony Yeboah, they have one of the most explosive forwards. Gary Kelly is a pacy full-back and John Lukic is an experienced, in-form goalkeeper.

Nigel Worthington is expected to play tomorrow in place of the injured Tony Dorigo, while Paul Beesley looks like making way for Lucas Radebe, who has been lifted by South Africa's African Nations success. The key decision is whether to play four of five at the back. If Wilkinson opts for five Leeds have come to stille, especially if Mark Ford is also included as a marker.

Apart from a recent dip in form, largely provoked by a series of injuries. Villa have been consistent - consistently good. have to do that'. I could not sinthemselves, not the opposition.

Only once this season have I picked a team with the opposition in mind. That was against Arsenal, in the League at High-bury, and we lost. Brian Little, the manager, said. "I won't do that again. We make people aware of the opposition, at setpieces and suchlike, but we go out thinking of the way we play. I have confidence in the players. They know if they play well they can win.

"Howard thinks very deeply about the opposition and tends to change things - in one game against us big Brian Deane marked Alan Wright. He will be

Unlike Leeds they concentrate on gle out anyone in our team and say: 'It depends what he does on the day'. Leeds are slightly different. I think McAllister does make them tick. They have other strengths which might give us problems, like the set-pieces, but

McAllister and Yeboah are the

dangers in open play."
Villa do have important play ers: Mark Bosnich, Gareth Southgate, Mark Draper and Dwight Yorke form a mobile and intelligent spine. Gary Charles and Alan Wright give them width. Their shape (three centre-backs, wing-backs) is designed to be solid rather than at-

tractive but the personnel. especially Yorke, lend it flair.

that individual spark looks, however, like missing out. Tommy Johnson's thigh injury is likely to rob Villa of their most inventive attacker; with Julian Joachim cup-tied, there is no natural replacement.

They will have the great un-

predictable on their side. Savo Milosevic, who shoots when he should pass, passes when he should shoot but, in various ways, justifies his place as the first Serb to play in a Wembley final (Yeboah is the first Ghanaian).

it is a hard one to call. Villa are favourites, but so were Manchester United when Villa won two years ago. If Leeds come out to play, it could be their day, and good luck to them. If they come



Reformed rebel Little still longing to let his hair down

pared to face a 50-strong media inquisition in the build-up to tomorrow's Coca-Cola Cup final against Leeds.

that this was the price of success.

"Not yet, it isn't," he responded, and even his soft Durham burr could not disguise the fact that this was a man who had learned, through bitter experience, never to take anything for granted.

There are two ways of looking at Brian Little's career. The positive considers 300-plus matches with Aston Villa, 82 goals, a promotion and two League Cup winners' medals, and international recognition. It adds two championships and a promotion as a manager and the current Villa revival. The negative dwells on a talented player who failed to fulfil his potential and was then cruelly cut down through injury at 26. He seemed sprinkled with stardust

when, having won the World Youth Cup with England, he was capped at 21. But he played just 20 international minutes. The season after his injury Villa lifted the League title. They went on to win the European Cup, while Little was selling Villa lottery tickets from a Mini Metro.

When he turned to management he was sacked two months into his first job and was a phone call away from leaving the game. Even after he found success, there was pain in the controversial move from Leicester to Villa.

All of which explains the transformation from cavalier player to roundhead manager. To meet Little now is to meet an accountant from central casting. He has short, greying hair, is neatly dressed, quietly-spoken, and exudes diligence and intelligence. The only thing Flashy about him is the name of his alsatian.

Yet, dig into the Match of the Day archives and there he is, shirt flapping outside his shorts, hair long even by the stan-dards of the hirsute 1970s, at times a full beard and moustache. Off the field he had a rebellious streak and regularly fell out with Ron Saunders, the manager.

"He was not someone I thought would be a manager," admits Allan Evans, his former team-mate and now assistant at Villa, Doug Ellis, the Villa chairman who Little: 'I'd still like to have my hair long but it doesn't go with the job'

Photograph: Allsport tury after signing him as an apprentice.

hired Little as manager a quarter of a century after signing him as an apprentice.

real talent, we have given the unit of a century after signing him as an apprentice.



Glenn Moore meets the man who has turned from cavalier player to roundhead manager of Aston Villa

said the change was down to "maturity. As one gets older one does not do crazy things but you expect it from youngsters. He was also, recalled Ellis, "quiet,

modest, almost shy, but I knew he had a terrific tough streak. Discipline-wise I do not think you would find a stronger manager in the country. He does not say much but, by God, when he does they jump to attention.

He is fair. He never slaughters players in public," said Evans, "but he will have a go behind closed doors."
Little took over at Vil-

la in November 1994 with the team sliding to-'I never achieved wards relegation. He quickly brought in several What | Should young players and the drop was narrowly avent- have as a player. ed. Further re-building took place in the summer My motivation is but the foundations for this season's success were from the memory laid at the Bodymoor Heath training ground. Of those days'

on long walks, explaining Gregory and Evans, would split up, taking forwards, midfielders and defenders ing golf. They both ghosted into posirespectively, and working on the system. Come the first day of the season, Villa, playing three central defenders with strikers, faced Manchester United. They not surprising since he first knew him were were 3-0 up at half-time. "It has all

out there knowing you can do well.

"We have a group of players who want to progress, who want to be something.

"The day of the signing his mum and dad came down and I remember his They are led by several guys who have been at the top and have a lot to offer. Most of the new lads are young international players whose previous clubs have not had the best of times. They have real talent, we have given them a stage,

While he could sign such players as Mark Draper, Gareth Southgate, Gary Charles and Tommy Johnson, more established talents could not be tempted. "We tried to get Les Ferdinand but he preferred Newcastle. I could understand that. But I hope, if we are trying to sign a player like that this summer, he will

want to come to Villa Park." It is one of the players be inherited who has shone brightest: Dwight Yorke. "He is revelling in the confidence we have in him. People say he is shy; he is anything

but. He is a happy fellow and very talented. Some of the things he does are incredible. The other day he was standing in a dustbin keeping the ball up on his head 200 times king fivers off everybody. Giving him confidence - and keeping it in check - will bring the best from him."

Little himself was a

less explosive player. Ellis likens him to John what was required of them, then he, John White, the Tottenham inside-forward, who was killed by lightning while playtions, he had a great deal of pace over five or 10 yards. Ellis said.

The chairman appears to regard himwing-backs, three midfielders and twin self as a father figure to Little, which is as a 14-year-old trialist, watched him stemmed from there," Little said. "Con- court and marry Heather, a former Vilfidence is a big factor in football, going a secretary, and signed his brother, Alan, cal park. The reward was successive pro-

mother saying, 'I'm very sorry, Mr El-lis. Brian will not sign for Villa. He does not want to leave home.'

"He had already been with us 18 months as a schoolboy and I said: 'We can't have that. He may be shy the first few days but he will soon get over it.

"She said: I'm very sorry but he won'tleave. Now, if it was our Alan, he would go anywhere." At which point Filis asked if Alan could play football. Mrs Little said yes, he's very good, but Villa's chief scout said there was no record of him. Ellis turned to Mrs Little and said: "If-I take Alan, will Brian sign?

"She said: 'That's different,' so I took Alan. He was with us three years and I sold him for £8,000 to Southend. which was a lot of money then." Alan Little, the elder by two years, now manages York City.

Brian stayed to make the England

team but his potential went unfulfilled.
"I never achieved what I should have done as a player," he said. "Even before the damaged knee finished me I did not make the most of what I had. Not that I was a bad lad, I was just a bit laid back. My motivation now comes from the memory of those days, that is why I try so hand to do my job properly."

It is also because he feared he would never get the chance. After being sacked by Wolves - after seven matches as caretaker-manager - he took a job as a car salesman. Before he could start Bruce Rioch, a former team-mate; then man-ager at Middlesbrough, asked him to be-come reserve-team coach.

That led to a job at Darlington, who had just been relegated to the Conference. "I knew if I failed, I might not get the chance to manage again." First he fired 20 players in an hour - "The first two took me 40 minutes, then I realised they did not want all the bull. The rest walked in and I gave them their letters."

Then he spent £400 of his own money on a set of ties and towels in club. colours. "I wanted the players to feel good about themselves." Little also carried the goalposts to training on a lomotions, the first, crucial one, clinched with a goal three minutes from time at-Welling United

That now seems long ago: Little is back at the club he loves, and at Wembley. There is just one thing troubling him. "I would still like to have my hair long, but it doesn't really go with the job," he confessed.

Still a rebel at heart, but a mature one.

Lukic relies on experience to answer the difficult questions

here is a question which John Lu-kie is forever being asked. Is it true. people want to know, that he was in the Munich air crash as an unborn "You'd be amazed." Lukic said, shak-

ing his head. "by the letters I get from solicitors and the like, wanting me to con-firm it for their quizzes. There was a Lukic involved, a stewardess I think, but all they have to do to see that it's nonsense is look up my birthdate. If I had a pound for every time it's happened..." The story has assumed the status of

an urban myth. But tomorrow, if Leeds United overcome Aston Villa in the Coca-Cola Cup final at Wembley, Lukie really will become the answer to a legitimate quiz question. Who is the only player to earn both a championship and League Cup winner's medal with two dif-

The 6ft 4in Lukic was a towering pres-ence in Arsenal's goal when Charlie Nicholas upset the odds and Liverpool in the 1987 final. Two years later he initiated Michael Thomas's title-clinching thrust at Anticld. He was also ever-present as Leeds finished first in '92, a success made all the sweeter when set against the sadness of his first spell at Elland Road. Now 35 and the steady antithesis of

the flamboyant keeper personified by Villa's Mark Bosnich. Lukic goes back a long way with Leeds. To shortly after the Don Revie era, in fact. As a schoolboy being courted by the club, he travelled from his Chesterfield home to watch them beat Barcelona on their way to the European Cup final of 1975.

By the time the England youth in-ternational displaced David Harvey four years later, Leeds were in transition, as Lukic politely put it. "The club was living in the past. Everyone thought we had too many good players to go down, but we were relegated in \$2. It took years to get over it."

As a developing talent in a declining team, Lukic was never likely to stay long



Phil Shaw talks to Leeds' veteran goalkeeper who has seen the best and

games before it became clear it was best for both parties that I left," he recalled. "I went up with Karen, who's now my wife, to tell Eddie Gray (then manager) I'd decided to go. We were both tearful." Leeds lurched from crisis to crisis, be-

set by poor results, hooliganism and debt: Lukic set about establishing himself at Highbury. After understudying Pat Jennings he became the undisputed No I, first under Don Howe and then, as Ar- have got is in senal embarked on a sil-

It inks Lukic that the tell you exactly Graham team, particularly its awesome and What I have still-thriving back four, did not receive the cred- done in a game' it he feels they deserved.

People called us boring but I prefer to say we were disciplined.
If attackers made stupid runs against us. that was their hard luck. But we never practised offsides - it was part of our

overall professionalism." Graham, ever the ruthless perfectionist, decided to replace his keeper with David Seaman, who ironically had been allowed to leave Leeds when Lukic was ensconced there, "It wasn't a shock." Lukic said, "because on deadline day the previous March, he tried to get David

and palm me off on loan to QPR. "But I declined, and the office staff at Arsenal thanked me the next day. They'd had all this lovely food which was left over from the press conference about

Howard Wilkinson brought him "home" for £1m in 1990, a year after the

worst of times at the club mother of all championship finales at in the old Second Division. "I played 25

Liverpool. "My claim to fame is that my throw-out to Lee Dixon started the move for the stoppage-time goal. I was at the Kop end and wasn't sure how they d'react to me leaping about, so I decided to he constrained - then went mad after-

> He left with fond memories as well as medals, not least of a

"touching" protest by 'The only video | Arsenal fans against the move to replace him. Yet returning to Leeds was hardly a backward verware spree. George my head. I can step, "The place had a totaliy different aura. In effect, I was going to a new club, with a new chairman, new manager and new money. The old one had been swept

> Lukic was not surprised when Leeds emerged on top in his second year back. But, the following season, "the wheels came off - no one could explain it". Many who sought to do so pinpointed Leeds' failure against Rangers in the European Cup as the key moment. Lukic, blamed for letting the Scottish champions into the tie, is philosophical about it now.

> I came out for a corner. The ball went off the top of my hand and ended up going behind me into the net. It was described as me punching into my own goal. which wasn't what happened. When I sat down and analysed that night, I came to the conclusion it was just one of those things. You can go through all the top keepers and pick out errors like that, Not that he is given to poring over per

odd broadsheet for the news, and the only video I've got is in my head. I can tell you exactly what I've done in a game - the significant things - and why I did them."

Lukic also took the rap when Leeds struggled before Christmas. But Mark Becney could not stem the flow of goals. which suggested that the problems went deeper than any individual. Wilkinson recalled him last month, since when the impression, confirmed by a stunning save from Stan Collymore on Wednesday, has been one of a player at the peak of his

Just as well, for consistency is not Leeds strongest suit. We've been very enigmatic in the League," Lukic conceded, "but steady in the cups. In the past, if we'd gone a goal down at Birmingham, like we did in the semi-final, that might have been it. This year we've dug in."

Form, or rather Leeds' lack of it, points to a Villa victory, although from Lukic's experience - which includes Arsenal's final upset by Luton - "there are no underdogs in a one-off match". Especially when the favourites are facing a forward, in Tony Yeboah, who might have been born to grace Wembley.

"Anywhere's a stage for Tony, but I'm sure he'll revel in the atmosphere. People talk about his spectacular shots, yet most of his goals are cold-blooded. with pace and whip on the ball. In practice games. I try to get on the same side."

Leeds should be thankful Lukic is in theirs temorrow. His authority and maturity the does not thank me for noting that he played alongside Frank Gray. whose son Andy is in the final squad) stand out in a team short on Wembley pedigree.

By coincidence, both he and Bosnich have family roots in the former Yugoslavia, and each talks knowledgeably about the conflict. Tomorrow, however, the questions will be posed by lunging boots and forcheads. Lukic is a private person to whom brash predictions are alien, but Leeds can be confident that he will be armed with the answers. formances. "I don't buy papers except the



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Newcastle face a testing time

at which their pursuers chitched was the severity of their final away fixtures. Today, a solitary goal ahead of Manchester United, albeit with two games in hand, the period when "Away the lads" could become "no way the lads" is upon them.

MOTHERS

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PANET!

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Twenty-five hours before Old Trafford receives Tottenham in what is traditionally one of the season's epic occasions, Kevin Keegan's side face Arsenal in what seems certain to be a tense, attritional affair. Next weekend Newcastle go to Liverpool, whose rich vein of form makes it a three-way race, and they still have matches at Blackburn and Leeds to

The strain of leadership caught up with Newcastle a month back, and it was evident that they played with greater freedom against West Ham on Monday when starting in second place. Arsenal, however, will be obdurate opponents, even though Tony Adams will not be fit after all to confront Les

Bellion V. Shelflehit Med Lawson is set to construe for Botton as first choice goally-eper Brangan times is sill managine. Sorter page that states and foot problems, so McGaley or De Peters count deputes the managine and attention is available after a two managiness a late times is a late to the managine page in the state. The construction is a late to the managine page is a late to the managine page is a late to the state of the agent at the agent attention.

Chelses Y UP & Chelses manager indices fleely in name an unchanged side with Burley continuing to fill in to the minute Newton. Hollowing is third out by a one-match suspension as Rangers since for much needed points.

Evertos y Whiteliddon

TEAM NEWS

When Newcastle led the Pre- Phil Shaw looks at the weekend's football as the Premiership struggle intensifies

> Ferdinand, who has never scored at Highbury.

After his outlay on Dennis Bergkamp and David Platt. Bruce Rioch expected Arsenal to be challenging themselves. Nevertheless, their players still have a chance of qualifying for the Uefa Cup, as well as the incentive of performing sufficiently well to survive Rioch's threatened purge or, indeed, of attracting would-be buyers.

Terry Venables will be at the game, which features six of his squad for Wednesday's visit of Bulgaria. Platt, who has missed England's last four matches, could regain the captaincy from Adams if he impresses the na-

Spurs take one of the division's best away records to Manchester, Yet with Colin Calderwood the latest in a long list of casualties, they look better equipped for the counter-at-tacking part of the game plan with which Arsenal frustrated

anke injury Manager komeat in adopt a more deleaser tempetion a possibly play thom as sweeper. **Notice Forest v Liverpool**

Forest are likely to remain un-changed, although Germall (after sus-pension) and After are available for selection, Redivage stands by far lu-erpool if midfielder. Thomas falls to

recover from a hamstring injury. Rud-dock is again set to deputise for Hark-ness while. Matten and Kennedy are called in because of doubts to Babb

Weet Ham v Man City
Cotice (cat) is still out for West Ham, so Dunitriscu will partner Dovide in attack: Moncar (gent) comes book into contention while goaleeper Malgato Chilgh soes a late fitness ust. Brown replaces Fitcoft, who has joined Blackburn, in the City side.

Max Utd v Tottosham

What show V ipycomans

If Uffind shier Cole is, as has been pledicted, Tested, Scholes is in line to replace the tensoriou, build from strings is again fleely to be missing and flaues is expected to to confirm to be missing defence, but finant defender Calderwood Scheel could be out forthe rest of the season, Main Julie Took Howells, Satomeral Rosental Cole late imposs tissue.

(toe) and Jones (back).

United for more than an hour in midweek than for the massing-behind-the-ball aspect.

Alex Ferguson may omit Andy Cole for the first time in the 14 months since his £7m signing, with Paul Scholes set to step in Scholes, nine goals from 14 starts this season, came on against Arsenal for Cole, who has the same tally from 27, after the latter squandered a series of chances.

A further seven of Venables' charges are in action at Nottingham, where Liverpool's burgeoming self-belief is likely to be strong enough to counter any backlash factor Forest may muster in the aftermath of their humbling by Bayern Munich. more, from both his former team-mates and those who revered him on the Trent End. should add spice to the occa-

At the bottom, the game will surely be up for Bolton if they do not overcome Sheffield Wednesday in the second of three consecutive home games. The first was lost, to Spurs, deflating the feel-good factor generated by a trio of away victories. Aidan Davison continues in goal knowing that Bradford City's Gavin Ward would probably have replaced him had Bolton's £250,000 of-

fer not failed. Manchester City, having banked £3.2m from the sale of Garry Flitcroft, appear almost as likely as Barry Fry to enter the transfer market before Thursday's deadline. Alan Ball's logic - that City are well covered for midfielders - will cut little ice with fans if their revival falters at West Ham, where the home side have won four of their last five matches.

A City victory, perhaps in tandem with a point or more for Wimbledon at Everton in a fixture redolent of relegation escapes, would intensify the pressure on both Southampton and Coventry ahead of Monday's six-pointer at The Dell.



Contradiction in terms: Professor Hans Eysenck, the men who pioneered IQ testing and a Manchester United fanatic

Top shrink owns up to United fetish

Jim White meets Professor Hans Eysenck, an Old

Trafford regular who has a good mind to solve

The other day at Old Trafford a most unexpected announcement came over the public address system. Amid the usual ages - "Greetings to the Dublin branch of the United supporters' Club", or "Would Darren meet Julie after the game outside the United Megastore to help her carry the souvenir bags home" - came the following: "Happy 80th birthday to Professor Hans Eysenck, who is sitting in the Stretford End."

It was a toss-up who was more surprised: the rest of the crowd to learn that the country's most eminent psychologist, the man who coined the phrases "extro-vert" and "introvert", the academic who pioneered intelligence testing, was sitting there in their midst; or the country's most eminent psychologist on hearing his name broadcast to the masses. "I had no idea who organised

that," he said a couple of weeks after the event, sitting in his study in south London, books like "The IQ Controversy", The Language of Genes" and "Madness and Modernism" jostling for space on his shelves with copies of Rothman's Football Year Book.

"I was so surprised suddenhearing my name over the transmitters. It was very strange, particularly as now everyone knows it was the 80th birthday." Professor Evsenck was born

thus a dved-in-the-wool Manchester United supporter.

"I used to play football as a child and started to watch games at about eight years old," he said. "and even then we knew of Manchester United. I have been recently in Egypt and Taiwan. The moment they hear I am from England they say the name Man-chester United without even knowing I support them. When I retired 12 years ago I could go more frequently and I became a season ticket holder and try to go to every game, British Rail per-mitting. It is a good time: this

I have ever seen." Professor Eysenck has spent a good portion of his career combining his hobby with his academic work. He has written papers on the benefits of psychological which end he and his colleagues conducted considerable research in dressing rooms.

United team is almost the best

"We didn't get much encouragement from players. They said: We are not screwy, we don't need you'. Shrinks have a bad

and brought up in Berlin. He is reputation in England. In Germany they were much more receptive. Though, even over there, you always got problems with managers, they saw you as trying Cole obviously has ability, but he to usurp part of their function. worries about something. That is He is particularly fascinated

by the psychology of form, the 'Cantona is fascinating. It is hard to change your personality like that, and all honour to him

way in which confidence ebbs and flows (and thus he has dertake field work from his seat at Old Trafford on the sub-redundant. ject of Andy Cole).

"A great deal of the game is played in the mind, obviously." Tissier. Last year he was out- er he is the tops. And now he

Cole's scoring problems and give Gazza an IQ test Ah, Gazza. Since the Prostanding, this year he has lost heart. Loss of form must be a psychological phenomenon, because physically he is exactly the same.

> easy to see. But helping solve those problems, that is different." Perhaps he should volunteer his services. "No, no. Most academic pyschologists and psychiatrists are very poor on practical psychology. People always get quite the wrong idea. At parties I meet a girl and she says: 'You must be able to read my mind." If only I could, I think Alex Ferguson is a very astute natural psy-

In any case, there is, Professor Eysenck reckons, a role model for Cole closer to home. a patient who apparently cured himself in a manner so suc-

chologist. To be so successful he

must be. I'll leave it to him."

"Cantona." said the Professor, eyes twinkling at the very mention of the name. "He is abhe explained. "Look at Le solutely fascinating. As a play-

has calmed down, he's perfect I am very surprised he managed it. It is a very hard thing to change your personality like that and all honour to him. I wish Gazza would imitate him."

fessor is most famed for his work on IQ (his son, with whom he attends all United matches is a computer expert, and at present the pair are engaged in developing a program for intelligence testing), what does he think Gazza's rating is? "I don't think Gazza is

dumb," he said. "He has emotional problems, which is a different kettle of fish. In any case. sadly, a high IO does not protect you from doing stupid things. Actually I don't think many top footballers are dumb, they lack education. I once talked to a chap who used to play for Everton - I forget his name now who was doing a PhD in psychology after he retired. And you only have to hear old players talk about the game to realise they have a very intelligent grasp of what is going on. Actually I'd love to be able to test footballers for nating paper. But now I am retired I don't have the students to do the leg work for me, so I don't have the time." Particularly since so much of his life these days is taken up by visits to his spiritual home...

Rangers have their eye on Wright Premiership match at Man-

chase for Ian Wright, Arsenal's transfer-seeking striker. Walter Smith, the Rangers manager, and Davie Dodds, his coach, watched the 32-yearold forward in Wednesday's

Stoke City fans like nothing bet-

ter than to see their neighbours,

Port Vale, soundly beaten. De-feated 2-0 by Leeds at home in

the fifth round of the FA Cup

and last Sunday thrashed 5-2 by Genoa in the "Mickey Mouse"

Anglo-Italian Cup final at Membley that's Vale's season

ever. Now they can concentrate

overshadowed by their less il-

histrious neighbours. Time was

when Vale were in the old

Pourth Division and we were in the First Division. So for Vale

players like Ian Bogie and

Steve Guppy and their manag-

on relegation.

would appeal to Wright, while Smith is still in the hunt for a goalscorer, despite his recent buys of Peter van Vossen and Erik Bo Andersen. Rangers have not yet made

their recent cup runs is hard to

come to terms with. Didn't we

once have Dennis Viollet, Jim-

my McIlroy, Roy Vernon, Alan

Hudson, Gordon Banks and Pe-

ter Shilton playing for us?
But if Vale's season is over,

vision, we have a chance of

making the play-offs though,

with Charlton, Derby and Sun-

derland still to play away from home, it won't be easy.

though, is that if we do get pro-

One thing that worries me,

The chance to play in the Chelsea are their main rivals, happier selling Wright to Scotland rather than having their crowd favourite playing down the road at Stamford Bridge.

made a couple of offers only to be rejected. Arsenal may be

I like the feeling of being in the enemy camp

FAN'S EYE VIEW No 142

Stoke City

Rush or Chris Waddle be prepared to end their careers play-

what his long-serving predecessor once called "thoroughing where Stanley Matthews began and finished his?
All this begs the question: breds" - players long in the tooth who could still turn it on a bit. Where would Macari find Do we want to be in the Prea Peter Dobing, Geoff Hurst or mier League? The last time George Eastham at a knock- Stoke were in the old First Didown price today? Would the likes of Peter Beardsley, Ian relegated with the lowest num-

ber of points ever recorded. We

could do without that humiliation again. It is here that I must confess

that I am an exiled Stoke fan living in West Yorkshire, who hasn't seen a match at the Victoria Ground since April 1973. (The match was against Man-chester United - Best, Charl-

like John Motson who enjoy a footballing irony United had recently signed what the pro-gramme described as "the spectacular Scottish striker" Lou Macari).

My reasons for wishing that Stoke should remain in the First Division are purely selfish. it would mean that I could continue to watch Stoke playing at Oakwell, the new McAlpine Stadium in Hudderstield, Bramall Lane, Blundell Park and, if Leeds United got relegated next season, Elland Road. I like the feeling of being in

playing away, though I'm not always brave enough to go with the away fans and I'm wary of being too demonstrative when the home team concede a goal.

I must also confess to enjoying what might be described as the kudos of supporting an unfashionable club - though I have discovered that it is not possible to share this indulgence with members of my family. Above all, my reasons for

wishing that Stoke remain in the First Division are practical and I hope largely unselfish. The Premier League is a different

of 10 years ago and Stoke simply haven't the resources to survive there for very long though. ironically, they probably have the support. If we do make the play-offs

place to the old First Division

and get to Wembley, I would. of course, want Stoke to win and I'd expect them to take their chances in the Premier League. Though I'd hate to see them end up like Oldham, Leicester, lpswich or Bolton.

get to Wembley and lose, because there's nothing Port Vale fans like better than to see their neighbours soundly beaten. But we could console ourselves... we did win the Autoglass Tro-

Wrangle thwarts Woodhall

Eldredge one jump ahead

er John Rudge, to become motion to the Premier League, household names as a result of will Lou Macari, the manager,

To be truthful, nothing irks ours is still very much alive. Stoke fans more than to be Currently fifth in the First Di-

Richie Woodhall was tonight left without a fight when his European middleweight championship bout was aborted in Hamburg. The German pro-moters could not come up with £181,000 purse - two-thirds of which had been paid - and Mickey Duff, his manager, felt he had no alternative but to pull out of the defence against Sal-

vador Yanez. Duff gave a opm deadline to the fight's financial backer, Kathe Schwensen, to come up with the outstanding cash, but he could not find the money. Woodhall, though, will not be nore.

Todd Eldredge, of the United

States, turned in the jumping

performance of his life to over-

take Russia's Hya Kulik and win

gold in the men's competition

at the World Figure Skating

Campionships in Edmonton,

Canada vesterday. Both Eldredge and Kulik,

who was leading after Wednes-

day's short programme, made eight triple axels, but the Russ-

içe skating

financially embarrassed. The payments already made will mean that he will go back to Telford with the equivalent of

£125,000 after paying laxes. But keen competitor though he is, the Telford fighter would have preferred to expend some the balance of Woodhall's of his energy against the 31-f181,000 purse - two-thirds of year-old Chilean-born challenger, "I'm not angry. There's no point in ranting and raving because you do no good. But obviously. I'm disappointed," Woodhall said.

The initial offer from Schwensen, under the promotional banner of Detleft Loritz, was a record for a European title fight and was too good to ig-

ian managed only one triplecombination to two by the

American and had to settle for

silver. Britain's Steven Cousins

slipped to 15th place after a dis-

In the ice dancing, the Rus-

sians Oksana Grishuk and

Evgeny Platov were poised to

take their third title after win-

ning the original dance section.

Britain's Marika Humphreys

and Philip Askew were in 16th

appointing performance.

Basketball

NBA: New Jersey 97 Deriver 89; Chicago 107 New York 86; Houston 85 Caseland 96; Pricero 104 Golden State 96; Seattle 104 LA Lakers

pack his suitcase and head for South America in search of a

Juninho. Asprilla or Branco or

two? With pockets stuffed with

oatcakes rather than cash, he

Or will he, like the former

manager, Tony Waddington,

trawl the Premier League for

hasn't much of a chance.

BOWLS

WORLD CRIMINIONSHIPS (Adelaide): Pairs: Section As Augentina bi, Missen 31-16; Nomine it israel 20-18; South Africa it Norton; Island 21-19; South Africa it Norton; Island 21-19; South of Western Samon 37-9; Angertina it Western Samon 24-12; Israel bi South Africa 18-16; Southard it Meland 29-16; Norton of Africa 18-16; Southard it Meland 29-16; Norton of Africa 18-16; Section its United States it Cook Island 32-16; Melaposa drew with Kenye 20-20 Indon it Hew Zeeland 20-19; Hong Wong by Lymad States 35-12; New Zeeland on Melaposa 31-7; Kenyo It Irahand 24-20. Section it Melaposa it Careta 42-8; Zembow et It lesser 22-19; Pauxa New Guinea bt Tholland 23-13; Careta it Zonbarow 28-20; Jensy it Weste 21-19; Papu New Guinea bt Tholland 23-13; Careta it Zonbarow 28-20; Jensy it Weste 21-19; Papu New Guinea bt Section 19-14; Buttmenta it Basal 23-15; Fo Nazoria 24-15; Guernsy it State 20-11; Fogard 11; Fogard 14-16; Guernsy it State 11; Fogard 12-11; Fogard 11; Fogard

South Affects 23-11; New Lease 118-17.

18-17.

WEMEN'S INDOOR HOME INTERNATIONAL CHAMMONSHIPS (Jamelli England IX Southland 113-100 England steps [ast]; J Roylonce lost to J Sylees 23-15; W Line IX E West 17-14; M Price IX E McGarve 19-13; N Sylew IX J Landons 24-19. M Sylee IX F Harcon 19-15; O Handers 24-19. M Sylee IX F Harcon 19-15; O Handers 24-19. M Sylee IX F Harcon 19-15; O Handers 24-19.

Boxing

PROFESSIONAL PROMOTION (Elephant and Cautie Loisure Centre, London): 8-rd feath-sweight C McMillar (Barting) fit P Buciety (Barringram (et 3rd, 12-rd for vegant British flyweight championship: M Cartwell (Etham)

Football

italy's Serie A matches which were post-poned last weekend because of a players' strike have been rescheduled for 10 April.

The Cardiff City manager, Phil Neal, has signed a 23-year-old lasmanian Glann Johnson, a striker with Black Town City of the Australian League.

TRANSPERS: Listos Brown fitoward Hull to Swansaar; Chris Lightfoot (midfielder) Wigen to Crewe; Jim Michelye (striker) Airdne to riffmenock; Lee Philipstic (midfielder) Lecester to Blackpoot; Ian Richardson (midireller) Simmighem to Notes Courty, Meek Ward midfielder) Simmighem to Notes Courty, Meek Ward midfielder) Simmighem to Hutdiespield.

LOAN TRANSFERS: Gracene Toenlieson unique Manchester Und to Librar, Stave Cover impleader) Asson Vide to Sandoric Ging Berry imoffeider) Meibell to Leyon Onent, Ambroy Brian (referredri Meibell to Leyon Onent Ambroy Brian (referredri Meibell to Leyon Onent Ambroy Brian (referredri Meibell Bornanch to Caesaer, Paul Brams (matfeider) Ebramon to Caesaer, Paul Brams (matfeider) Leeds to Dystal Palace, Adrian Fester forward (Brightern to Deber; Brian McGorry (matfeider) Wycombe to Candil. BULGARIA SQUAD (Friendly v England, Wennberg, Wednesder): Hidhanbor (Remburg, Popov (SSNA Sofis), Kreenedrev (Demotsport, Riyaldov (Northburg, Gelinchwi (Bergot), Manche (Hardinger), Babaleov (Hardinger), Penney (Method (Lestinger), Babaleov (His Suttiger), Penney (Method (Lestinger), Babaleov (His Suttiger), Penney (Method (Histori), Stalkov (Stava Sofis).

THURSDAY'S LATE RESULTS: European Capwinnord Cup Quartar-finals, second log Feedood (Institut B 4). 1 Monchengiden O (Feyenourd win 3-2 on agg., Pens St-German (His pens 9-68, Link 37). 3 Porma (Meil: 27). 1 (Paris St-Germain ven 3-2 on agg.), Paga Vienna (Unicker 48-15, Sofiger pen 63). 3 Durson Mossow (Jäppir Menna en 1-2 on agg.), Paga Vienna (Janeser 48-15, Sofiger pen 63). 3 Durson Mossow (Jäppir Menna en 1-2 on agg.), Paga Vienna (Menna en 1-2 on agg.), Paga Vienna Moscow O (Rapid Menna win 4.0 on agg); Real Zaragras (Monentes 37); 1. La Corura (Rebeto 64); (Deporto La Couria ven 2-1 on agg). Pontins Laugue First Division: Stoke Cay 1 Leeds Unided 2; West Bromwich Albon 2 Nichmigham Forest 2. Second Division: Aston Visa 0 Manchester City 2. Berd Ges Léague Of Freland Pramiser Division: Dundais D Sharmook Rovers 0. Lies League Guardian Insurance Cay fourth-round replay. Kingstonian 2 Heytonice Swifts 0. Jewson Eastern League Pramiser Division: Heddegh O Des 2. Aven Insurance Combinetion Second Division: Postponed: Torousy (Cheterham, Libertadores Cue Brows Five Risk.)

Laura Davies, the defending champion, finished the first round of the LPGA Stan-dard Register Ping in Phoenix with 71, three shots behind the leader Barb Mucha. Davies is trying to become the first player on the tour to win the same event in three consecutive years since Kathy Whitworth captured the Orange Blossom Classic from 1968 to 1970. HOYEL 1988 OPEN (Tokyo) Leading second-round scores (Japon unless stated): 137 B Watts (US) 69-69; E Herera (Coll 67 70; 5 La 4 66 72; M Kimura 65 71; S Gran (Aus) 65 72, 138 S Yokota 67 71, 139 P McWhansy

lce hockey NRIL Boston 3 Ottawe 1: Flonda 3 NY islanders 2: Pritisburgh 5 Edmonton 4; Tampa Bay 3 Washington 3.

SPORTING DIGEST

WORLD FIGURE SKANNE CHAMPIONSHEPS (Entroption, Carry Finds Insurant results: 1.7 Edwards (15): 2.0 trg. 2.1 kmax (Rs. 2.5; 3.8 Gastro: 4.5): 6.0; 15.5 Churry: 68: 20.5 Leading less danning positions after original danner 1.6 of shumand E Patro: Riss I.U.; 2.4 kg. oz. and 0.4 kg. 1.6 kg

Rugby Union

RELAND SQUAD (Hong Kong Sevents, 29-31)
Marchi: D McBide (Mazze, first, P Johns Obrigaton, D Corless) Contact on, J Garth (Wandsere), N Hogan Teterane Calego, E Sevend (Jascharte), V Commington (St Marys Colego), H Woods (Baschotte), R Wallace (Garyowen), J Topping (Salymena), R Wallace

Skiing BRETISH CHAMPIONSHIPS (Tignes, Fr) Men's parallel statore: 1 G Bet; 2 A Bester; 3 A Frest-sezer. Women's parallel statore: 1 M Acare; 2

Sumo

Sumo

Sprans Grand Tourdament (Ourid) 13th day of 15t Toursands mon 7, but 6t bt Rassgap (6-7); Kaskechdos (8-5) in Kebrasums (8-5); Kascosto (7-6) in Koonepou (7-6); Kaskechdos (8-5) in Kebrasums (8-5) in Dastoto (7-6); Koonepou (8-6) in Dastoto (7-6); Sel at Maschdo (8-6) in Dastoto (7-6); Sel at Maschdo (8-6); Toursahims (7-6); In Maschdo (8-6); Toursahims (7-6); In Maschdo (8-7); Constitu (6-7); Dastoto (7-6); Toursahims (7-7); Associatio (8-7); Maschdo (8-7); Ma

SWEITHTHING
BRITISH DUMMPC TRIALS (Sheffield): Hert
90m freestyle: 1 M Fester (Cay of Carolf)
22.74sec: 2 A Papley (Chy of Shefield) 23.18;
3 M Fishers (Haffield) 23.29. 300m medlay:
1 O Worsen (Chy of Leeds) 2mm/5.32sec: 2 F
Valker (Varmiggon Wester) 3.20-7.7: 3 B Laftony (Cay of Leeds) 200.15. 1,500m transpire:
16 Smith (Stoodpon Herton) \$50.34.3 (Partsh
record); 2 P Palmor (Chy of Lencoln) 15:16.60.

3 I Wilson (City of Leeds) 15:32.95. Women: 50m freestyle: 1 S Rolph (City of Newcastle) 15:15:2 A Streppout (Mingues and Beautie) 15:15:2 A Streppout (Mingues and Beautie) 26:86. 200m batterfly: 1 H Jepson (City of Leeds) 21:5.93:2 H Slater (Warmigton Warmors): 3 M Peater (Portsmouth Northsee) 21:8.66. 200m bedistrates: 3 J Dealines (City of Covernty) 21:5.72:2 K Oster (Eating 2:16-4): 3 E Taltam (Portsmouth Northsee) 2:18:20. 800m freestyle: 1.5 Handcastle (Eracknet) 8:38:27: 25 Colings (Oily of Eracknet) 8:58:27: 3 H Birty (or) (S) Helens) 8:51:22. (Nambes In bold quality).

Jove (US) tr M Hadad (Co) 4-5-7-6-6-4; M Condissa (SA) or N Laperto (Ecuador) 6-2-4-6-2: R Reneberg (US) to A Raduescu (Ger. 7-6-6-4; Montania suggles first round: Chromou (US) to 7-5-4-4; Montania suggles first round: Chromou (US) to 7-5-1; The Chromou (US) to 7-5-1; The Chromou (US) to 7-5-1; Mind (US)

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And woe betide us if we do

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In Monday's 24-page sports section



COCA-COLA CUP FINAL

Brian Little: From cavalier to roundhead Page 30

Illingworth to stay after rival withdraws

Cricket

JON CULLEY

After the débacle of the World Cup. English cricket is suffering more embarrassment today after David Graveney's bid to oust Ray Illingworth as chairman of selectors ended in farce.

The 43-year-old players union leader withdrew his opposition to Illingworth little more than 24 hours after his nomination by Warwickshire and Surrey was confirmed by the Test and County Cricket Board. Ballot papers had been issued

to the 18 first-class counties who, along with the MCC and Minor Counties, were to have delivered their verdict - effectively a vote of confidence in the current England regime - by Tuesday morning. That vote will now not be necessary, leaving Illingworth to continue unopposed as chairman for the forthcoming home series

against India and Pakistan. Behind Graveney's withdrawal is the insistence of the Professional Cricketers' Association, for whom he is full-time general secretary, that he could not combine both roles, partially from a practical point of view but also taking into account possible conflicts of interest. It was on their instructions that he stood aside.

Graveney, on holiday in

tunes and the security of his existing paid post, aware that leave him out of a job.

The terseness of Graveney reaction last night betrayed his disappointment at having to make the choice. "As a paid emplovee of the Professional Cricketers' Association, I accept the instruction of the president and the chairman.7 he said.

"I would like to take this opportunity of thanking Warwickshire and Surrey for nominating me and any other counties who might have supported me. I apolmay have caused. It has always been my wish to serve the game to the best of my ability and I shall continue to do this in the future."

The Cricketers' Association supported Graveney's election as an England selector a year ago but clearly felt the chairmanship to be a position he could not combine with his union duties. Tim Curtis, the chairman supported by the president Jack Bannister, confirmed they had instructed Graveney to stand down, explaining that the association had given "further consideration to his nomination as chairman and decided that there would be unacceptable difficulties for the association".

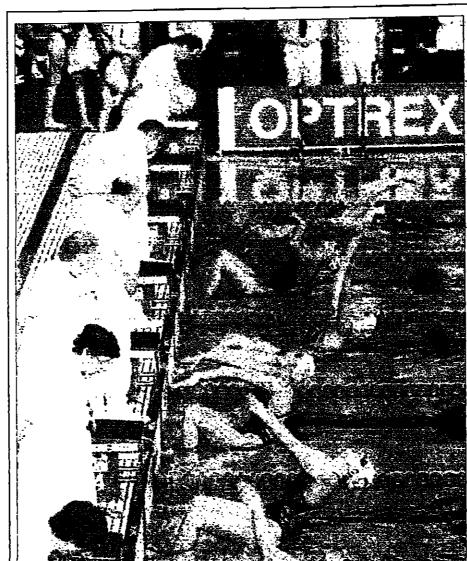
In particular, they foresaw problems over his representation of players in disciplinary matters

English cricket's battered for- dia wearing different hats. He has only recently, for example, been advising Devon Malcolm over the TCCB disciplinary action set in motion in response to the Derbyshire bowler's comments about Illingworth made

after the South Africa tour. The hierarchy at Lord's, who confirmed last night that Illingworth would stay on as chairman responsible but this episode reflects little credit on the parties involved. It is an embarrassment to Graveney and his supporters, and to the Cricketers' Association, who knew nothing of the nomination until it was made public on Wednesday, by which time Graveney had outlined some plans he proposed to put forward, if successful.

"I spoke to David about the matter for the first time only today," Curtis said last night, "Had we been able to talk earlier the Association would not have had to issue the kind of statements we have made today."

•There are deeper ramifications for the England management structure and for Illingworth. Straw polls indicated that the firstclass counties were divided only man, Gravenev having struck a chord with his plans for greater delegation of responsibilities and an emphasis on including current and recent players in the coach ing set-up. Ian Botham and Mike



EVENS: SKONES N

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Cup final haunted by threat from Uefa

GLENN MOORE

Tomorrow's Coca-Cola Cup winners could have the prize of a Uefa Cup place taken away from them before the end of the season. The action would hasten the end of the competition in its current format.

The threat comes from Ucfa, which is expected to remove the Football Association's right to offer a Uefa Cup place to the League Cup winners at its executive meeting on 19 April. Without such an incentive, many leading clubs can be expected follow Manchester United's examole and enter weakened teams. Restructuring of the competition would almost certainly follow. One FA official even went so far yesterday as to say privately: We assume it will be the end of the competition".

Although Chris Hull, of the Football League, said: They cannot do that, it is an agreement between the FA and the League", the FA's Steve Double admitted: "It may be written on a tablet of stone, but Uefa could place is a gift from them.

The principles of natural justice suggest this year's winners will qualify, but even if it does the prospect of the competition losing a Uefa Cup place after next season would inevitably lessen its prestige, and the League would find it hard to match Coca-Cola's current sponsorship deal, which expires at the end of next

season. The FA has written to Uefa defending the status quo but an FA official admitted: "We are not terribly confident." The threat follows a misguided attempt by Uefa to reduce the size of the Premiership. It threat-ened to prevent countries with more than 18 teams in the top di-

vision (like England) allocating European places to league cup winners. Rather than cutting their division, however, Premier clubs reacted by welcoming the news, on the basis that it meant an extra place for a high Prem-

iership finish. Premiership clubs are committed to entering the League Cup, which would prevent a return to the absenteeism of its early days. With gate receipts.

cast it into the deep blue sea. The television income and prize mon ey, the winners of tomorrow's final between Aston Villa and Leeds will gross £2m from the the FA Cup winners. Yet even that, in proportion to Sky's millions, is less significant. So, these

days, is the Wembley date. Europe remains the real prize as Brian Little, Aston Villa's manager, underlined in midweek. When asked if the competition had grown in prestige he replied: "Definitely. A route into Europe means an awful lot to clubs like ourselves."

This year, with the Premiership losing a European place be-cause of the insipid approach to the Intertoto Cup, it means even more. As things stand there will be only five English entrants into the three European competitions next season.

Hull said the League had been assured the Uefa Cup place is safe for this season and next. We are confident it will be for years to come. Lennart Johannson [Ucfa's president] recently suggested he did not care how many league games clubs played.



THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

No. 2942. Saturday 23 March 10 Shock tool used by lock-

Friday's solution

Last Saturday's solution

ACROSS

smith? (9) 11 It's seen in painting, especially! (5) Extremes of the filthy dump get you readily an-noyed (5)

that? I must be crazy! (9) Ring and cross on Scot. a

University fellow? (7) 16 Is it initially located in the prickly plant? (7) 18 Large simple plant incorpo-

absorption (7) 20 Farewell for ambassador atlending Queen Elizabeth I

in company (7)
21 Boy, girl and newsman in the doghouse! (9) 23 Vulgar slut framing name

in vulgar language (5) 24 Should drain be omitted from shortage of drinking material? (5) 25 Train colt to dance - we

sing (9) 26 Luxury service to begin: dine with beaux in right surroundings (4.9)

DOWN Don't show doctor greeting one mistress while embracing another one (4.1.4.4)

2 A sudden flash, topped by the lightning in this? (9)
3 Spider-infested tree has

ery black interior, on reflection (5) Mystical poet, one with exsion of disgust, in the forefront (7)

Be a recipient of fashion-able girl's sex-appeal (7) Exclude Ordnance Survey line encircling island (9) Little space given to University in Ulster due to lack of interest (5)

Fancy that being a ques-tion of expertise! (4,2,3,4) Football tans cry foreshadows a win - things never change (4,2.2.5) 15 Who'll organise inert

cops? (9) 17 Ultrapain, wrongly prescribed, can be rough stuff

19 I join cutter going round edge of Pacific (7) 20 Former emperor almost capturing protectorate in noted display of

prowess(7) 22 Most of the liquor turns up after dark (5) 23 Content's missing from

some spirit - it s just watery liquid (5)

Flitcroft plans to catch peers

From Blackburn to England is how Garry Fliteroft mapped out his future yesterday, when he completed a £3.5m move from

Manchester City. The 23-year-old midfielder, who signed a four-year contract with Rovers after being on the staff at Maine Road since he was 12, said: "I have watched some of the players I played with in the Under-21s go on to the full squad and perhaps I have sat back a bit. This is my chance to catch up."

Ray Harford described his

latest signing as "a complete midfield player" but not necessarily a straight replacement for David Batty, who was sold to Newcastle United for £3.75 at the beginning of the month. With less than a week to go

to the deadline, Leicester were busy clearing the decks for new arrivals. Jimmy Willis, a defender, is to join Burnley for £125,000; the winger Lce Philpott agreed a £100,000 move to Blackpool; and the striker David Lowe may re-join Wigan for £125,000.

Birmingham were rebuffed by Martin O'Connor yesterday after agreeing to pay Walsall £500,000 for the midfielder. Barry Fry did, however, offload three players, with mid-fielder Ian Richardson joining Notts County for £150,000, the former Everton midfielder Mark Ward going to Hudders-field on a free transfer, and Manchester City making Scott Hiley's loan move permanent for £200,000. Jan Molby continued his rebuilding at Swansea by paying Hull £60,000 for Linton Brown, a striker.

Norwich City have dismisse as speculation rumours that the Italian outfit, Genoa, are about to buy out chairman Robert Chase's stake in the Carrow Road club. EUROPEAN CUP Semi-finals: Aiax v Par

neikos; Juventus v Narties (First leg 3 April. second leg 17 April. Final in Rome on 22 May) EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP Semi-fi-nal draw De Jordon La Consila y Paris St Ger

UEFA CUP Semi-final draw: Slavia Prague
-- Dentes er Basen Munich v Barcelona, (Fis ieg 2 April, second leg 16 April. Winner of sec-ond semi plays at home in first leg of two-

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ATTEND An opera masterclass

NDAY INTERVIEW

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BEYON ENDURANCE

Brigitte Fassbaender is one of the wisest of singers with a string of unparalleled. interpretations of opera and lieder living on in memory and on disk. Book right away to watch her masterclasses with singers in London's most intimate and inspirational musical setting. ■ Wigmore Hall, London W1 (0171-935 2141) Sat 3pm, Sun 4pm £9, £7

PICTURE STORY...

THE MODERN GIRL3

GO **Snowboarding**

The worst of the winter may gone, but there's still plenty of the white stuff in Meribel in the French Alps, home of the week-long 1996 Playstation British Snowboard Championships beginning today. Drop everything and sample this cross between surfing skateboarding, and skling, the fastest-growing winter sport ever. Crystal Holidays (0181-240

GARDENING.

.4-6 PROPERTY

WATCH **Quiz Show**

Schindler's List made the teeth-gnashingly photogenic Ralph Fiennes a Hollywood star. Mysteriously, many managed to miss his excellent performance in Robert Redford's criminally underrated Quiz Show. Now you can buy video proof that Hollywood doesn't have to be brainless or witless: **■** Touchstone, £12.99

16-21 GOING OUT

TAKE The Plunge

Masks, fins, snorkels, boats and everything you wanted to know about sub-aqua diving is on display at the London International Dive Show. There's a try-out dive pool for the uninitiated and the chance to win a balmy learnto-dive holiday for two in the Bahamas. ■ National Hall, Olympia,

London (0171-370 8485)

REVISIT Music Hall

Elizabeth Mansfield is finally in the West End where she belongs. Her vivid incarnation of Marie Lloyd is a real star turn, drawing audiences into the feisty, frolicking world of the Queen of the Edwardian Music Hall. Infinitely preferable to a Sunday afternoon slopping around on the sofa. Fortune Theatre, London

WC2 (0171-836 2238) Sun





The Independent

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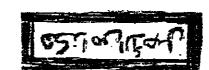
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picture story



The boulevard of Jadi-Mai-Wan was once Kabul's busiest commercial district. Years of shelling and gun battles between the rival mujakedin have disemboweled it. The area is heavily mined and full of unexploded shells, yet the



Having mastered a few steps on his new leg, after months of being hospital-ridden, this boy and a therapist share laughter at his success. In Kabul, relief workers have discovered that often the handicapped are the best teachers for each other



As the sun set over the devastated landscape of Kabul, this old man climbed to the rooftop of a bombed-out building to watch a child flying his homing pigeons above the ruins. Even in winter, the old man wears only sandals. "I have only enough money for food," he says. "If I buy socks what will I say to my children when their bowl is empty?"

HIGH COST, NO RETURN

Over the past 14 years of war, Afghan combatants have blasted away hundreds of millions of pounds in ammunition — and have killed over 25,000 civilians — trying to conquer Kabul. To an outsider, the prize may not seem worth it. Much of Kabul has been hammered into rubble. Winters bring famine, disease and more destruction. When an Islamic militia movement known as the Taleban appeared at Kabul's gates a year ago, many Afghans greeted them as liberators, come to free them from the anarchy and death brought on by the warring guerrilla factions. Today, the Taleban have proved themselves no better than any other mujahedin faction. They, too, have become part of the chaos. In trying to overthrow the unpopular Kabul regime, they have rocketed and bombed the poor families and refugees who are cowering in the city's muddy ruins. Kabul's plight lies forgotten by all save the Afghans themselves and a few brave relief agencies.

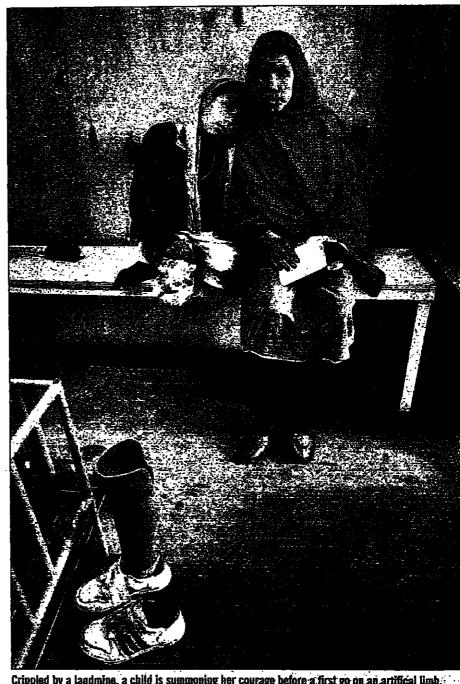
Tom Pilston, who was yesterday named Nikon Feature Photographer of 1995, spent two weeks in Afghanistan capturing the story on film. Words by Tim McGirk



A teenage gunman faces the Taleban enemy, crouched in a rained farmhouse just 200 yards away. The youth's best friend was killed the day before by a rocket. He's tired of war but knows that if he returns to his village, the commander there will send him back to the front



was carried into hospital by his saviour, a young militiamen, who gave 700ml of his own blood



Crippled by a landmine, a child is summoning her courage before a first go on an artifical limb.

The Red Cross, which built the limb for the child, claims that fighting has left over 2 million

of the making Daughters of the revolution

The Nineties miss has never had it so good. Or has she? In the first of a four-part series, Rosalind Miles discusses the pleasures and pressures of life for girls today



Calvin Klein out of Lady Chatinism, the answer to Freud's "great question", proof that women can have love and Have we got the technology for you! work. She is the modern miss, and she's never had it so good.

Or has she? History loves to flirt with the idea of female freedom, only to shove women back in the closet as soon as their hour is done. From the forging of the US frontier by Annie Oakley to the British Land Army of the Second World War. there is a "now-you-see-it, now-you-don't" quality to the New Girlhood that should give us pause. Much of the hullabaloo looks like sheer advertising hype. How much of what we see in the modern maid at play can be real, and how much is just another image-maker's device to foster the illusion of progress we have not had?

Some things have changed, for sure. This is the first generation of women in history not to make getting a man, marriage and a family their sole or primary goal. Figures from the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys show that the priests. No wonder girls are walking tall. number of marriages has now slumped to its lowest for more than 50 years. The age at which women marry for the first time dom, all movements for equality have has risen steadily to almost 27, giving young women a decade of freedom from domesticity which most will put to the kind of personal or career development

unthinkable in their mothers' day. Today's young women also feel free to pick apart the traditional man/marriage/motherhood package, taking only the bits they want and happily discarding the rest. You want a man, but not marriage, dear? You live together, that's all.

and clothes flowing, she strides vey Hopes and Realities by Guttermacher than boys, with the result that some 13- showing of the freedoms they have. So, far another fear, too. Their growing-up has boldly out of the adverts down Research Institute showed that child- year-olds have only the physical maturity from being the stronger sex, now they have seen a virtual holocaust of marriage, the every street in the land, hounces birth is talking world-wide, while figures of girls of 9, in the least lit tema off the pages of every woman's from Britain indicate that around a fifth magazine and lords it over the of today's under-21-year-old women will late-night chat show set. By choose never to have children. You'd like a child but not a man, madam? We offer terley, she is the trimmph of Seventies fem-you the single-parent option. You'd rather ter than boys at A-level are still only half not mess with a male to get pregnant?

Now that getting a man is no longer the main purpose of life from the age of 12 onwards, girls are free to concentrate on their schoolwork in an apparently bloodless revolution that has reversed another entire belief-system of the past. The faith in men's higher intelligence, used for centuries as the raison d'etre of male dominance, has taken a terminal blow with this month's confirmation from the Chief Inspector of Schools and Head of the Office for Standards in Education that "girls outperform boys at 7, 11 and 14". Girls are more successful than boys at every level in the GCSE, and are now achieving success in traditionally "male" subjects like design technology, computer studies and maths. We have female astronauts and ambassadors, female weight-lifters as well as weight-watchers, women sewage-workers. CEOs and

And yet. All revolutions, all calls for freealways stopped short of sexual equality. The undoubted progress that women have made has always been in the form of "two steps forward, one step back". The girls who are succeeding academically now are also becoming 5 per cent less fit than boys, warns Professor Neil Armstrong of Exeter University in a study presented to the Government last year, through the bias of the National Curriculum towards

s, even knickers showing, hair Marriage, but not children? The 1995 sur- by parents, girls also walk and cycle far less when the men are making such a poor larity of today's young women holds ation ever known.

> horse, the girls who slog so hard at as likely as the same boys to get Firsts or Upper Seconds at university. And the higher, the fewer. Ninety years since the first woman professor was appointed. only one professor in 20 is female. At the end of this, girls emerge into a world the first equal opportunities and pay legislation in 1975, women are still only getting around two-thirds of what a man receives for the same work. And, of course, he still needs two-thirds more domestic burden will smoothly fall on our young girl's shoulders as in tradition.

> With these eternal and apparently unchangeable sullen realities of worklife and home, no wonder the image of the New Girl striking out carelessly into the future has proved so seductive. The New Girl expects a job which she can turn into a career, and a salary to match. She wants her own place, a car, and the accoutrements that go with her life-style, she wants the freedom to travel and the fun of having sex when she wants it and not expect "a commitment" when she is ready

> when she doesn't, along with the right to What she dangerously resembles is a complete inversion, almost a parody of the most dismal stereotype of manhood, the selfish, career-obsessed, dick-driven dork who only screws and bolts.

For all her flaunted femininity then, the Wonderbras, the achingly short skirts and fuck-me shoes, the New Girl is in fact a real lad in drag. Freedom for girls must not team games "for the lads". Over-protected involve aping or taking men's, especially

been forced from the strongholds of patri-

oday's young women have been robbed of the illusion of the powerful protector and provider. ("Prince Charming?" Angela Phillips imagines them saywhere even after 21 years of effort since now sturdily resolve to go it alone, in another eerie parody of a classic male obsession, the myth of heroic lone endeavour. This course is likely to be as difficult, dangerous and dysfunctional for most women as it always was for the desperaleisure time than a woman, so the unfair dos alone on the range. We do not win equality and fulfilment for women by reenacting all men's mistakes. Men and world, and it is unreal for women to plan In deciding to do without men, today's

and believed they were and continually disappoint by failing to deliver. But to reject men as partners because they are biologically, socially, and intellectually weaker than women is another historical more like "doing it all", it is clear that the found implications than those we have considered so far. Those days of devaluing the female are gone, but if our young creatures who talk with such uncanny fluwomen cannot consider sharing their lives with men - as husbands, partners or themselves of the fullness of human experience, not merely condemning young men to the frozen wastes of alienation from which many do not return.

The "I'm all right, Jack" sparky singu-

highest divorce rate this country has ever archy men are failing in droves, as hus- seen. Much of their go-it-alone thinking bands, fathers, bread-winners, even as is seen as a triumph of feminism, the first school are still held back at degree human survivors. Male suicide in the age-level. The girls who so easily do bet-group 15-25 has tripled in the decades mothers, born knowing that a woman group 15-25 has tripled in the decades mothers, born knowing that a woman without a man is like a fish without a bicycle, and determined to go forth uncluttered to conquer the world. But many of their mothers were not victors but historical casualties of feminism, individually unable to profit from that great revolution ing, "Haven't seen him for ages"). Many in thought. Many of them raised their consciousness enough to leave their marriages, but not enough to stop them desperately and often unsuccessfully seeking another to take its place. They were also often too late or too unconfident to hit the newly opening career trail. They are the many bitterly discontented, divorced middle-aged women who have finished up with neither love nor work. The danger women are designed by nature to share a then is that today's girls are in fact living out mothers' resentments, not their own golden land-of-promise aspirations.

And all this does not even begin to girls are in effect punishing them for not tackle the intractable prospect of wanting being strong, capable, all we once hoped to bring a child into a world of work that takes no account of the family needs of men, let alone those of the mothers of the future workers of the world. With the "baving-it-all" formula looking more and revolution with perhaps far more pro- modern girl still has it all to do before she can inherit the earth.

And yet. As I meet these bold, brilliant ency, these cock-eyed optimists who take for granted what we have been trying to simply friends - then they are depriving tell them for the past 20 years, I can't help thinking that if anyone can do it, they can.

> The author is married with grown-up children. She is a contributing editor of Cosmopolitan magazine.

We invite female readers aged 13-18 to fill in our questionnaire - anonymously but honestly, please - and return it by Tuesday morning. We will report your answers in the final part of our series on Wednesday. State your your age, the type of school/college you attend, and the town or area you live in in the space provided, and send your answers to: Making of the Modern Girl, Features Department, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL

Have you ever asked a boy out on 🔲 yes 🔲 no How many sexual partners have

less than five nore than five Do you drink alcohol? yes no

How many cigarettes do you

f yes, what and how often?

Have you tried drugs? 🗌 yes 🛄 no If yes, which ones and how often?

How much pocket money do you get?

Во уои еаги алу толеу iess than £10 a week less than £20 a week Is doing well at school important not at all

very What career would you like?

Would you mind if your partner earned a lot less than you? □ jyes □ no Would you mind being unmarried 🗆 yes 🚨 no Would you mind being childless? yes 🗀 no Which high-profile woman world you most like to be?

Age: Type of school/college/job Town/area where you live

NEXT WEEK IN THE MAKING OF THE MODERN GIRL

Girls at Redborne Upper School and Community College in Ampthill, Bedfordshire, talk about how they see their place in the world



Sex, relationships and what boys are for "It would be all right if I could set down the rules. Iwas saying to my Mum that I'd quite fancy a weekend boyfnend who didn't get in a mood or care if I didn't want to see him in the week." Louise Wilson, 15



TUESDAY How do girls get what they want?

"Girls are better at getting their own way than boys boys give up so easily. If their first attempt fails, girls will keep trying. And they argue better - they know what to say at the right time." Rachael Sanders, 13



Where do we go from here? "I've always imagined myself as a powerful career woman - but then I'll think 'Oh, who wants a career? Let's just have babies!' My Mum works, she loves her job but she comes home and she's tired." Ruth Milway, 18

DISCOUNT

The fanatic's guide to factory shopping

Julie Aschkenazy meets Gill Cutress, guru of bargain hunters

Cutress is in my job and factory shops we had computers in all the curtains, carpets, furniture addicted to bargain are a way life there. I saw a sale stickers of high street shops do not tempt her. She was at that stage. I found a prefers to go to the source: the factory shops. Over the past 10 years she made a career of visiting over 1,200 shops and has travelled more than a quarter of a million miles in search of the ultimate bargain.

It is in these totten well hidden) factory shops that manufacturers sell off samples, excess and returned items, ends-of-lines and those goods which fail to meet quality controls, to the general public. Shoppers can normally expect to save 30 per cent, sometimes 50 per cent on the high street prices and occasionally as much as 70 per cent which Gill describes "a bonus".

Shopping

"I got into factory shop-

sign for one and stopped the car out of curiosity. I didn't know what a factory shop terrific range of items and bought myself a dressing gown at a very good price. I thought: I'll get a book about these shops." It turned out

that no such book existed. Redundancy from work provided Gill with an opportunity to do some hard research and put together a publication. Thus the series of Factory Shop Guides was

I had pictured a home cottage industry and was rather surprised when I discovered the Factory Shop premises were smart Clapham Mews offices where Gill and her partner Rolf Stricker, are helped by six part-timers. "It just snowballed. Rolf joined me after ping by accident," she the first two years because I explains. "I had been trans- was in a state of collapse. We

bedrooms and ended up having business meetings sitting on the edge of the bath. So we had to get premises. Everything is done in-house from research to publicity and approaching book shops. By their nature, the shops

are often situated in the back

of beyond and publicity is

factory shop.

One of the best buys for

may be spending several hun-

dred pounds but at the same

time you save hundreds. We

ber of yards so there were

seeking out carpet factories is

that, unlike at high street

polishing

we were able to snap up."

patchy, to say the least. Some are happy to invite the public in, others are a little more sensitive as they don't want to alienate high street chains by making it obvious they are selling direct to the public at low prices. "The sensitivity is much reduced from when I started," says Gill, "In some cases it is still there. But factory shopping is different to high street shopping. High streets won't sell last season's colours or anything slightly

Although bargains range from pairs of socks upwards. the best savings can be had at the upper end of the ferred to Nottinghamshire used to work from home but spectrum. Designer wear,

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and jewellery are all excellent value. "I have had to be selective over the years. My best ever bargain to wear was a designer cashmere dress for £90 (the high street price was £450). My partner and I describe ourselves as walking rejects, everything we wear, buy for the house or put into the garden comes from a

the house is carpeting. You bought an industrial-strength stair carpet for £40 which a hotel had commissioned. The factory was unable to stop the machines on the exact numoverruns and remnants which

One said the shop was very poor, the other said this is Another good reason for absolutely brilliant - I fixed up my 10 grandchildren with shirts and socks at unbelievshops that have fixed stock, it is sometimes possible to ably low prices!" Watch out. become involved in the you could get hooked.

World's Most Comfortable Shoe?

production process. Some factory shops will oblige you by making unusual widths or dying to your own colour specification at no extra cost. Furniture, too, is a good buy because of the big outlay-big savings equation. Another bonus is that here, too. you can sometimes have a say over the finished product the factory might be prepared to make a piece to a particu-lar size or stain it to match

your existing furniture.
Whether it's the thrill of the chase, the adrenalin that goes with rummaging in a bargain box of designer samples, or simply a day trip out for the family, such shopping can be a very variable experience. "I once got two letters in the same post bag about the same shop," says Gill.

six of the best factory shops Bags and luggage: Bargain Baggage Factory Shop, Bugatti House, Norham Rd, North Shields (0191 258 4451).

Carpets: Jorgus Carpets, Grimeford Mill, Grimeford Lane, Anderton (01257 482636).

BARGAIN

Knitwear: Alan Paine Knitwear-Ltd, Scats Country Store, Brighton Road, Godaiming, Surrey (01483 419962). Upholstery and curtain fabrics: Waterside Mill Shop, 359 Sheffield Road, Chesterfield, Derbyshire (01246 456886).

Glass and crystal: Caithness Glass Ltd, Visitors Centre, Inveralmond, Perth, (01738 637373).

Designer wear: Nicole Farhi and French Connection, 75-83 Fairfield Rd, London E3 (0181-981 3931 x203).

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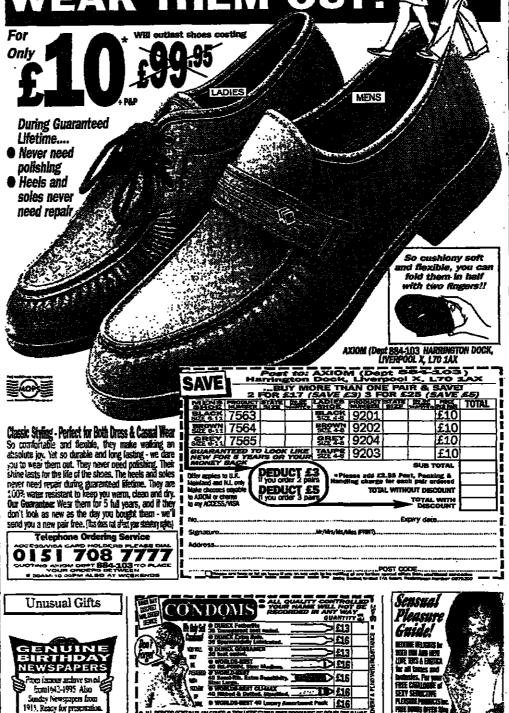


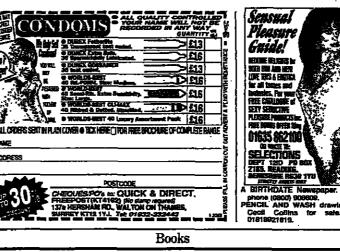
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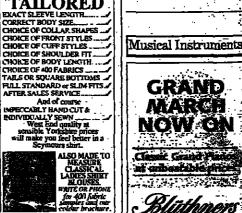
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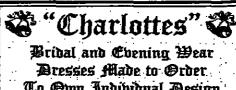












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Purveyors of spiritually wholesome whole food

Caring, sharing and wholefoods: that's what life is about at Daily Bread, the Christian Co-operative. By Tony Kelly

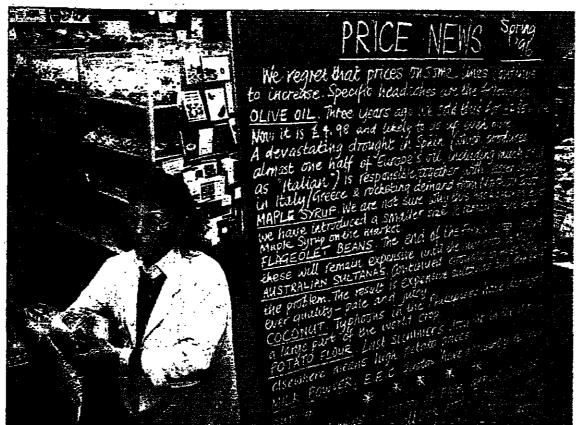
hopping and spirituality. The two words hardly trip off the tongue together. But in a warehouse on an industrial estate on the outskirts of Cambridge, a small group of Christians is trying to show that you can be a consumer with a conscience

Walk into the Daily Bread Cooperative and you might think it was just another wholefood shop. There are no crosses on the walls; no religious music in the background (unless the staff happen to be engaged in their daily session of worship upstairs). Tempting dis-plays of olives, nuts and honey sit alongside vegetables from a local organic farm. A coffee shop sells home-made cakes; a Traidcraft stall has Third World crafts. And then you notice, among the Indian ear-rings, a selection of "Christian witness Jewellery".

"We don't go out of our way to push our Christian approach," says man-ager Andrew Hibbert, who founded Daily Bread after working at its sister shop in Northampton. "We hope some of the atmosphere rubs off, but we want people to come because there's something worth coming for."
And, indeed, it's worth coming here for the cheapest extra-virgin olive oil in Cambridge.

A manager? In a Christian co-op? It doesn't sound quite right. "It's important to have management in any business, but all decisions are taken democratically at a weekly meeting and the tasks are genuinely shared," says Mr Hibbert. One of his jobs, for example, is cleaning the toilets. "I enjoy doing things like packing lentils and not just sitting at a desk all day,"

business according to Christian prin-



It's worth coming to Daily Bread for the cheapest extra-virgin office oil in Cambridge

ciples? "We're working towards a tithe, giving 10 per cent of our annual wage bill to charity," says co-op member Gill Barker. A proportion of profits goes back each year to the developing countries from which much of the produce comes. Staff are all paid the same - cur-

rently £8,820 a year. "We pay oure says.

Selves enough for our need but not for our greed," says Mr Hibbert. A leaflet, which is discreetly avail-

able to customers who take the trouble to look, makes the link with scripture: "... and they sold all their possessions and goods and distributed them to all, as had any need" (Acts 2.45).

"I was at a conference of Christians In Business recently." says Mr Hibbert, "and I thought to myself 'we're a darned sight more Christian than all Christians In Business just because a 50-50 balance between "strong"

they work in business and go to church. Our whole business ethic is a

In a room beside the shop, a group of people recovering from nervous breakdowns are packing muesli into bags. This is not just tokenism; they are paid the same wage as everyone else and can become full members of the co-op in these people who call themselves due course. The long-term aim is for

and "vulnerable" staff. There is no requirement for this second group to be Christians. "Religion and illness don't necessarily mix," says Andrew Hibbert, "and it's not right to say that you will help someone but only if he or she is a Christian."

Pam was one of the original Daily Bread workers when it opened in 1992: she is now in charge of packing and also works on the till. Both she and her husband suffer from depression and their daughter is in care. Sometimes it's easier to give up than to keep going," she admits, but she has kept going for four years. She is now having a house on the proceeds of her earnings. Michael has been at Daily Bread

for three months and is still on trial. "Working here has given me a pur-pose in life," he says, "I can go out and buy things for myself now - the other day I bought a CD and a bag for bringing my sandwiches to work." Few other businesses would risk employing people like Michael and Pam - it might not be economic.

That seems to fit with the Christian ethics. But what about the products - why concentrate on wholefoods? What is particularly Christian about brown rice and Bombay mix? The sharing of food is a Christian thing to do; the Last Supper is an example of how to share good simple food together, says Mr Hibbert. "Wholefoods are basic foods and we sell them at a good price. By selling them in bulk we keep them cheap. save packaging and encourage people to buy in groups and share. Some of our customers get together for splitpea parties."

Daily Bread Co-operative, Kilmaine Close, Kings Hedges, Cambridge (01223 423177). Closed Sundays and

Six of the best Soap dishes

soap dish inset. and coloured glass beads. A hit

eccentric but immensely stylish, although perhaps not very practical - sludgy soap gets trapped beneath its spirals. From Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, London SW1.

soap dish, £109 Made from

resin with embedded gold leaf. Very ornate tor those who think bath time is about decadence.

And the price is decadent, too - if you're feeling rich this would make a good present for someone who already possesses all of life's necessities. From Harrods, Knightsbridge, London SW1.

↑ Mac Products bath taps soap dish, £16 This soap dish comes in white fine hone china with a green illustration of a distinguished gentleman. One for

those who like the look of Victorian memorabilia. From Selfridges, Oxford Street, London, W1.

Metal soap dish, £13.95 The upper tray has holes to drain away excess water on to the bottom

tray. Very clinical: for those who like their bathrooms minimalist. modern ചാർ

masculine. From Liberty, Regent Street, London, W1.

5 Heals, £19.95 You can't really go wrong with this blue-and-white soap dish - it's so simple and fresh. From Heals, 196 Tottenham Court



Road, London W1 and 234 Kings Road, London SW3.

♠ The Conran Shop, £5.95 A Uvery good price for something that look so stylish Rests on three pronged feet and is very user friendly as the shape is perfect for scooping out

slippery soap. From The Conran Shop. Michelin House, 81 Fulham Road, London

Stylist: Charlie Harrington

looking. become bestsellers if their settings

tiepins, for example, not only have a reputation as quick-thrust spy weapons but become bestllers if their gem settings depict blood sports. A collection of 135 of them, "property of a gentleman", at Sotheby's on Thursday (10.30am) has plenty of foxes, bounds, huntsmen and game. Four fox pins, decorated with rose diamonds and cabochon rubies for eyes, are estimated £400-£600. There are also jockeys, a motor car, a champagne bottle, a monkey, and two diamond aeroplanes est £300-£400 the pair.

The earliest tiepins prevented (neck-scarves) and 19th-century the invention of the more stable

lence seem to appeal to the worst nightmare – accidentally British. Innocent-looking trapping their tie in a drawer. trapping their tie in a drawer.

Sotheby's auctioneer Alexandra Rhodes, author of the definitive Hatpins and Tiepins (Lutterworth, 1982) points out that they also legitimised the 19th- and early 20th-century male's urge to wear jewellery. Tiepin fashions closely followed women's jewellery fashions - the 19th-century cameo, for example. Sixties psymen are buying them again. And what sort of tribal art

appeals most to the bloodthirsty British? Weapons, of course. At the knots of 18th-century stocks auctions strong in tribal £1,500. weaponry, a surfeit of British bidcravats from unravelling. After dets will push up the prices of even Fijian fishing spears from Windsor knot they were used to their usual £75 to £750 each. pin tie to shirt, rescuing Victorian Non-belligerent carved wooden

Nollectables with a touch of vio- and Edwardian clerks from their figures can fetch astronomic prices, far higher than weapons but it is the Americans, Belgians, Swiss, French and Germans who compete for them rather than

> In Edwardian times, when London tribal art sales were dominated by the British, you could buy an early 19th-century Raratongan figure for about £3 and a New Guinea wooden war shield for 15s - not that much difference chedelic ties finally swamped in price. Now, Continental and them, but the London silversmith American refinement of taste Hancock's reports that young and greater buying power has oushed the price of Raratongan figures up to £500,000, while New Guinea shields - mostly for the Brits - have stuck at £1,000-

> > The Art of Africa exhibition at spur the British into buying tribal art. Unlike Paris, London still has racial reconciliation and guilt. no walk-in tribal art shop. Here.

the two or three dealer/collectors trade from home. The dominance of foreign money at London tribal art auctions became most visible in December, when a rail strike in France dissuaded American and Continentals from including London in their traditional round trip. Takings at London tribal art

auctions took a dive. Among the more exotic offerings at Tuesday's tribal art sale at South Kensington (10.30am) is a pair of goose breast britches from ceramics, Phillips. Monday the Arcuna Indians of Chile, esti- (10km); collection of dogs and mated £200-£250 and a pair of shoes (£600-£800). Australian collectors are expected to bid them up. Most rapidly rising prices are for the tribal art of South and East. Africa. Wooden head-rests from the Royal Academy did little to there, worth £10 10 years ago. now sell for £300-£400 - due to

Three antiquarian book col-

lections full of curios at Sotheby's, Thursday and Friday (both 10.30am): Borneo, Napoleon and agriculture. Markham's "Masterpiece of 1008 advising the smith. farrier and horse leech (£200-£250) shows that the 17th century farrier could teach his modern counterpart a thing or two.

Best of the rest: former trade union leader Clive Jenkins's collection of commemorative cats in art of Count Alarico Australian aborigine feather Palmieri. Christie's Thursday Victorian pictures, tilami: Sotheby's Wednesday (11am), Christie's Friday (10.30am): modern Brits, Christie's South Ken, Thursday (10.30am): applied arts from 1880, Sotheby's Friday

John Windsor

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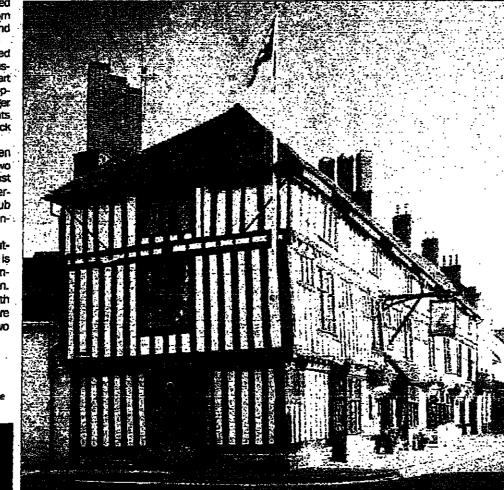
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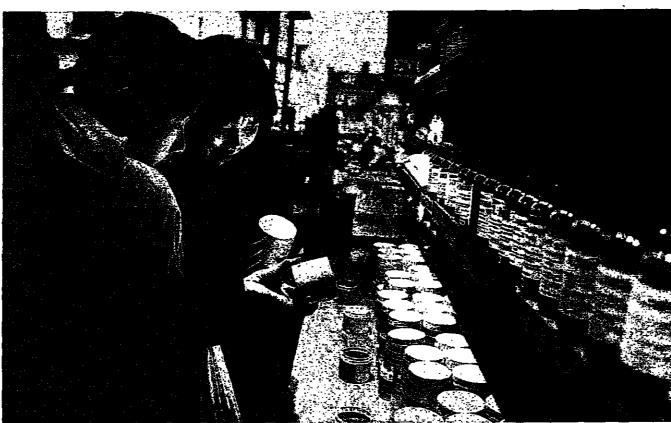
You're not supposed to eat the Pineapple Grunt: you're supposed to wear it

Caroline Donald visits Lush, the firm that makes cosmetics from comestibles

f ever there were a shop that justified the term "whacky", it would be Lush. Enter one of its three branches - in London's Covent Garden and Kings Road, or in the High Street, Poole, Dorset - and you are confronted by pineapples and honeycomb. Over on the fridge counter are bowls of wholesomelooking gloop with names such as Atholbrose. Staff of Life and More Than Mortal. The wooden dresser-shelves are lined with moulded balls the size of apples and oranges. And jolly, handwritten notices, sprinkled liberally with exclamation marks, exhort the customer to try the wares. Tempting as it looks, however, it would not be a good idea to eat your slice of Pineapple Grunt, cut from one of the blocks on the counter and wrapped in greaseproof paper. This is not a food emporium but a cosmetics shop. Lush's managing director.

Mark Constantine, says there are "food legalities" that prevent the company from taking the joke too far, but a visit to the factory in Poole left me with the impression that, even if you did tuck into one of Lush's products, you would probably find it nutritious. The company, though, does use synthetic preservatives in the products that are expected to have long shelf lives. Passing by rooms full of honeycombs and sprouting wheatgrass, I watched Lorraine (the labels tell you who made what, when) cooking up H Suan Wen Hua - a hair treatment conditioner, with free-range eggs. avocado, banana, balsamic vinegar, watercress, bay leaves and olive oil. This seemed more like a superior soup kitchen than a soap factory.

For those who are used to cosmetics in dainty pots. Lush is a bit of a culture shock: the Angels on Bare Skin cleanser is, frankly, grey. I found that the petals in the Luverly "bath ballistic" (fizzing bath salts) clogged up the plug hole for days. As in recycled paper, or unbleached cotton, you have to temper your expectations.



There's a very jolly, back-to-basics ethos about the new cosmetics producer, Lush. So far, it's proved an extremely successful formula, as the appreciative throngs of people in the company's London Kings Road shop show

Photograph: Colin McKillop

company is the air of corporate jollity, from the names it gives its products - Tisty Tosty bath ballistic, Scullery Made hand and body lotion, Back for Breakfast shower gel - to the chatty newsletter/mail-order form ("hands up everyone with dry skin but who still insists on having the shower water too hot"). This sort of instantly recogniseable to the million or so people who were on the list of mail-order firm Cosmetics To Go (CTG), the previous incarnation of the creative team behind Lush, headed by Mark Constantine.

The tale of Mr Constantine and company's fortunes over the last 20 years is a reflection of the changing face (so to speak) of the

Dateline

"The highest profile

A distinguishing mark of the country. In the Seventies, they worked with the Body Shop on such staples as Pineapple Facial Wash and Cocoa Butter hand and body lotion. "We had some lovely times with them. It was just like joining a whirlwind," says Mr Constantine, In 1988, Mr Constantine, his wife Mo and their team decided to set up on their own, and started CTG, which happy-go-lucky approach will be was, again, hugely popular, However, CTG became a victim of its own success, and when a discounted product brought in 130,000 phone calls in a week, coupled with water leak into the computer system, it all became too much and the company went into administration in January 1994. It is now owned by some-

When Mr Constantine's col-

league, Helen Ambrosen, started to look again at some of the 10,000 formulae the team had accumulated over the years, it was not long before others joined her. Having sold all their equipment, it was a case of improvisation. "At first we had just one beaker to use between us," says Ms Ambrosen. Gradually, they gathered together what they could muster, using domestic food processors to mix the ingredients, plastic buckets, drainpipes, and even the top of a child's toy box as soap moulds. Regular trips were made to the local supermarket to buy fruit and vegetables with which to

experiment. The company now uses a local wholesaler for its fruit and veg, but the back-to-basics ethos

remains. "It is nice that the simplicity is successful," says Mr Constantine. "It wasn't contrived. You just do what you can do with

no money."

Both the Kings Road branch and the mail-order side of the business are taking over 1,000 orders a day. With a new factory and two branches recently opened in Vancouver, Canada, Mark Constantine has much to be proud of. But he is proceeding cautiously, knowing by experience that pride comes before a fall. "I'm just grateful to be here. And grateful that people like our stuff.

> Lush, 29 High Street, Poole, Dorset (mail-order 01202 668545); 123 Kings Road, London SW3; 7 The Market, Covent Garden, London WC2.



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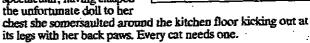
instructions. Then away you go with your needle.

Glorafilia, The Old Mills House, The Ridgeway, Mill Hill. London NW7 4EB (0181-906 0212).

Mad thing

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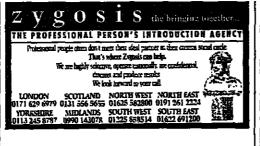
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SUSECH BAYA THE CONCERT MIKHAIL PLETNEV

DANCE BITES Hew work from energographers Ashley Page, Christopher Wheeldon, Emma Diamond and Tom

THE DANCE

Sapsford for the Royal Ballet's annual small-scale

tour danced by Adam Cooper, Deborah Bull et al.

Scottie Constanti praised Page and Diamond, plus

Sapstord's eroticism and elegance, "While this

year's programme isn't exactly primming with

noteworthy new items, it seems less shackled

isn't - suitable lodder for the ballet stage."

overall by prodish conventions of what is - and

Diamond makes them look plonous, freezing the

dance into sharp quivering angles and then letting

It fly and dip on its own momentum... a piece of

fine passion and austerity... V/heeldon's Souvenir

(has) a gift for surprising detail that carries a Derating feeling of gridiness," sang the Guardian.
Souvenir is wholly delightful... Movement is born

of the music. The language is traditional but not stale: Wheeldon speaks it with his own youthful

lyncism and sense of its possibilities. A charmer,

charmingly danced, and I have high hopes for

Wheeldon's future," cheered the FT.

Russian planist-turned-conductor Mikhail Pietnev conducted concerts with the CBSO and the Philharmonia Orchestra playing Prokofiev, Tchaikovsky and Rachmaninov.

Robert Cowan bowed before Pletnev's mastery of the repertoire. "Tchaikovsky's Third Orchestral Suite was so affectionate, playful and artfully shaped... A Rachmaninov Second Symphony that was without fuss, without cuts and without the slightest hint of disliguring overstatement. The sort of performance that challenges preconceptions and changes minds." "Just when the audience in Symphony Hall was wondering where the next britliant young conductor was coming from, here was a vivid demonstration that such musicians do exist," exclaimed the Times. "Rachmaninov's name doesn't spring to mind as one of the great wizards of orchestration, but Pletnev's performance reminds you just how

subtle his use of orchestral colour can be. As a

thrilling," trumpeted the Guardian.

conductor, Pletnev is eccentric, erratic and often

Sheffield Lyceum tonight (0114-276 9922); then touring to Blackpool (01253 28372) 25-26

March and Bath (01225 448844) 28-30 March.

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cinematic rarriy; wit. A great

lyds', -- and adults' -- movie.

TOY STORY

John Lasseter's computer-generated animated film

for Disney about toys coming to life. A box-office smasheroo in the USA: \$184,205,561 and

counting. Nominated for a Best Screenplay Oscar.

Adam Mars Jones was impressed. "A remarkably

high quotient of jokes, vistial and verbal... As

much of a landmark in cartoon as Who Framed

Roger Rabbit, without being quite so hectic." "A

"Tempically entertaining, guaranteed to wow audiences," enthused Empire. "It's about as far from old-fashioned Cisney as we can get... it

gent. The ingenious, with script proceeds to work

marvels. The most fun in town," saluted Time Out.

represents the land of world that modern kics inhabit, topched with technical genius," applauded

the Guardian. Whatever untathomable technology

brought loy Story into being, the completed film is

camerawork to the anumated feature that Keliy and

Donen brought to the musical in Singin' in the Rain: entrancing," eulogised the FT.

Rated PG, 81 minutes long, starring Torn Harris

(in voice over) and now at every possible cinema

delightfully user-friendly," grinned the Times.

Brings the same articulately gymnastic

A mixed bag, but the cream of the company are on display, including Cooper, Durante and

The Rachmaninov CD is impressive, but live was better. A big, bold future.



NEXT WEEK ON THE ARTS PAGES

EXCELLENT

GDOD

OK

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POOR

As the Houvenhams and Yahoos invade a television screen near you, Michael Church reflects on the perennial accuracy of Dean-Swift's satirical shafts

David Cohen reviews the latest showing from Stephen Cox, a British sculptor who plies his chisel alongside India's Hindu temple masons

Wednesday

On the day that the European Court rules upon Britain's ancient blasphemy laws, Tom Dewe Matthews profiles professional pomographer Nigel Wyngrove

Thursday

Rory Bremner (right) teaches Jasper Rees how to make a good impression on TV

And, talking of masters of disguise, James Rampton compiles an identikit picture of Sir Alec Guinness, from Smiley to Star Wars



WOODY ALLEN

haal's Pub in Manhattan made a rare British Paranca as the final gig in a European total

Lister was underwhelmed: The band

Daylot Lister was underwhelmed: "The band played very completently but with no great verve of slightess." A straightforward, fast moving, instruction, earth-stastic retreading of early jazz classics. It is great not be the worker greatest classics. It is great not be the worker greatest classics. It is not be the worker greatest classics. It is not be a virtuoso to large to the state in the cause, conceded the classical. It is not important to have the large training and strangely, angst-riction. Magnetizable though he is, whoody Allen has littly smiled the Telegraph. New Orleans jazz is all alignit ree flowing, collective improvisation. While melociles interweave informally, cylindry or documently, and always naturally. But Woody and its wooden gang seem to have lost the plot. Its support the 17. "Unincultedly a better classification that Taylor and Campbell is a novelist."

familians can bear him in New York. Others

minee Mira Sortino, opens on 12 April

or Orleans style jazz at the Festival Hall.

The resident clarinettist on Monday nights at

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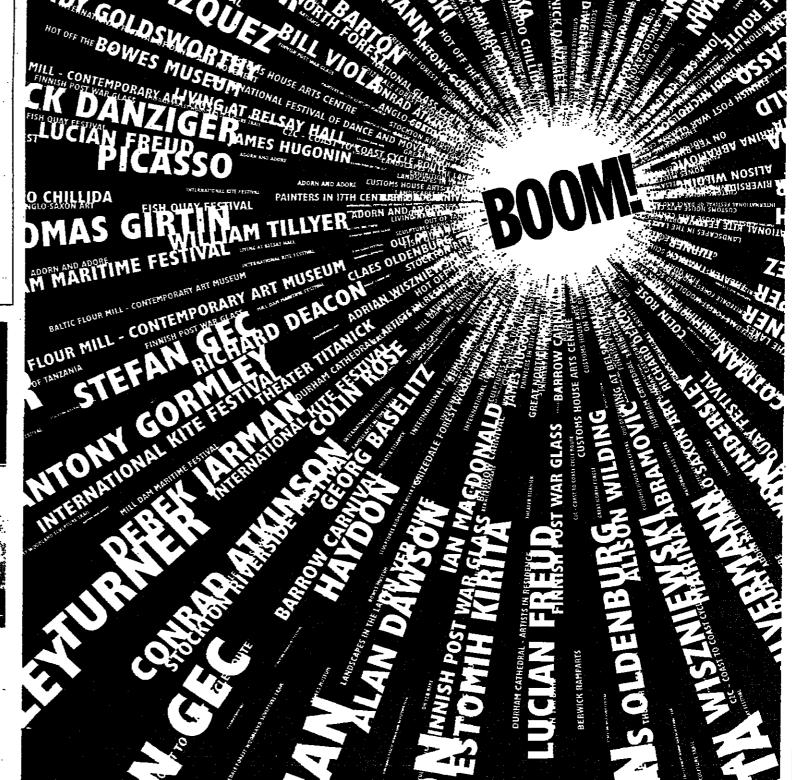
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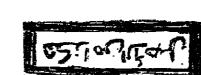
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16

ST Now in the State

IST ENCOUNTERS

We can fantasise, but technological wizardry won't solve the problem of violence

Accountant. The occasions were invariably squabbles over equity who had been more generous with their wine gums? Who had churlishly hoarded their Vimto while freely partaking of another's Cydrax? What was needed, I realised, was an incontestable arbiter, a divine referee who would tally every tiny, unremembered act of exchange and deliver the bottom-line - the proof that I had been insufferably wronged and that my brother should hand over some Midget Gems at once. At the time I thought God was the best equipped for this task - because of his qualities of omnipresence and essentially a religious daydream

Supernatural resolution to a

humanly insoluble problem. I was reminded of this by the recent public debate over the V-chip, a cheap electronic gizmo that can be programmed to exclude violent or sexual images from a domestic television. In a perfect demonstration of involuntary reflex - the fact that a sudden impact on the body politic will produce a convulsive action without conscious involvement of the brain several people took the view that the massacre at Dunblane constituted a powerful argument for the V-chip. Among them was David Alton, the Liberal Democdivine impartiality. But it isn't rat MP, who called for legislation to make its installation compulsory

then I was a small child I (the opposite, perhaps, given that old occasionally used to have a fantasy about a Universal tion). It is a dream of magic, of wish, I wish we could stop children seeing these unpleasant things," thought Alton, and then the genie in the chip appeared to do his bidding. For just 60 pence, a messy. intractable human duty - that of schooling your children in the ugly ways of the world - could be

waved away, as by a wand. It wasn't the first time that technological wizardry has been called on to make problems disappear electronic tagging had an equally childish appeal (literally, in that case, as the idea first appeared in a Spiderman comic). But it wasn't long before it became clear that the invisible prison was actually the Emperor's New Building. Nonetheless, those who support



deal - a switch by means of which we can turn off moral corruption.

Naturally there is a catch, as in most bargains with genies. The objections to the V-chip proposal are fairly obvious. For one thing it has to be programmed to work. and it seems unlikely that the right people will bother. Smoke alarms are largely bought by middle-class, non-smoking home-owners, the sort of people who unplug the television before they go to bed the V-chip talk of it as the perfect and have furniture made out of

alarms are not big in the spending priorities of those who like to drift off to sleep on a petro-chemical sofa with a can of Tennent's in one hand and a lighted fag in the other. On a similar principle the Vchip will be employed principally by those who don't really need it, happily ignored by those who do. There are other problems - technology is notoriously turnable, particularly by bright teenagers in search of cheap kicks without all that tedious context, Besides, who

will decide what constitutes a potentially deranging image? How will the V-chip's hidden controllers discriminate between Titus Andronicus and PowerRangers? Even if you support Mr Alton's aims, it must be clear that the Vchip won't advance them by a sin-

a devout wish for one bodied forth

in silicon and plastic. The knowledge hardly cancels the allure. Even though I believe them on top of the potential psychopath, I can't quite stop myself toying with its magic, as you might fantasise about what you could do if you were invisible or, even better, were given three wishes by the bag-crone you have helped across

various reasons. First of all I would programme it to turn the sound down whenever the adverts appeared, so that I wasn't jarred by that sneaky nudge in volume; after that I might use it to remove

non-combustible hessian; smoke gle inch - it is not a solution, just from documentaries all scenes in which the presenter travels down an American freeway while flicking through the local radio sizthat the only way V-chips could appearances by Michael Howard prevent a future Dunblane would replacing him, as soon as technologie if you dropped a skipload of ogy permits, with an overlayed and them on top of the social and on the social and the social and on the social and on the social and on the social mation of Dick Dastardly, from whose mouth that creepy rabble rousing would emerge in perfect. synchronisation. I would ensure that no drama in which the characters said "We have to talk" would ever cast its flickering light the road.

I would like a V-chip myself for a tasteful blue lozenge to mask the sight of Richard Branson's lower lip whenever he appeared an -screen Wishful thinking can be quite enjoyable, you see, but really shouldn't be mistaken for

Tank my nairdresser...

Monday is Oscar's night in LA. But florists, chauffeurs, trainers have been planning for weeks. By Daniel Jeffreys

ednesday: there's mayhem in Charlie with more than 200 gorgeous stars.

It's Oscar night, 25 March. The night to see and be seen, to fret about which parties are hot and whether the dress is too tight or the wrong shade of ivory. But whatever its excesses. Oscar night could not happen without Charlie the Car. For 12 years, his limousine service has been the biggest in Beverly Hills. Roseanne has been sick in the back of one of his limos. Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman made out in the back of one of his Cadillaes. Horky is a vital cog in the Oscar machine, part of an unseen army.

"Everybody has to be in their seats by 5.30 LA time because the broadcast is geared to the East Coast, which is three hours ahead." Horky says. "It can take two hours to travel three miles the traffic jams are unbelievable. I meet with the Los Angeles police months in advance to make sure all our drivers get through. I tell all our clients they must be on the road by 3.30pm."

Horky's limousines are supplied with champagne, vodka, beer, soda and water with ice. He also carries pantihose. "Our most common crisis is snagged tights. We keep six shades in every car. It saved Demi Moore last year."

Salvation comes in many forms. In award week, LA's A-list hairdressers, dressmakers, personal trainers and chefs are all booked solid. "We have been fully booked on 25 March for five months. It will be crazy in here," says celebrity crimper Christophe, "I close on Oscar day," shrugs hair stylist Art Luna, "I just make house calls to clients like Annette Bening."

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EA WARELES CHEENING

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At Fred Hayman's Hollywood store, fashion consultants have been overwhelmed since February. "This year's fashions have much more colour." says Hayman's Ayre Gill. "Sharon Stone is leading the fashion pack - her Valentino gown is a knockout."

It had better be. All the big designers compete to dress the stars. After nominations, every contender gets letters of solicitation from Armani, Versace, Richard Tyler and on, down the list. No actress pays a penny, the designers all but beg to have their frocks on display. Calvin Klein has scored big: Sandra Bullock, Goldie Hawn and John Travolta will wear his label. Unfortunately, you can also expect to see men in some wacky, not to say tacky, styles,

"The tuxedo is being re-interpreted," says Party Fox the Academy's fashion consultant. One can only imagine. "There will be full-length jackets, iridescent burgundy and liquid black material." Nice. At least the ladies will be spared embarrassment. "We consult with all the presenters and nominees," says Fox, "to make sure they don't turn up in the same dress." The horror, the horror

Vera Wang is also hot, Mare Winnigham, star of Georgia, will wear Wang, who has also made four gowns for nominees and presenters. "It takes us about a month and a half to design a dress," says Wang's Tory Robinson, "The final fitting is the night before. We tell our ladies to

lay off the ice-cream until Tuesday morning." Whoopi Goldberg will host the Oscars in Donna Karan, matched with diamond earrings and a diamond tennis bracelet worth more than one million dollars. "I asked Donna to make me something that can be comfortable for all that time I'm on stage." Goldberg says, "I do not roses in jewelled tones and green fern. The food need to be in a sheath dress with six-inch heels."

Fashion makes a statement, flowers say. Horky's office. "I need 10 RollsRoyces by Monday at noon," he screams down the phone. "You promised me 10. Don't screw me."

The handset hits its cradle with a crack

The handset hits belower Fashions in the Beverly Wilshire Hotel (the place to stay and sold out for Oscar night since last November) took delivery of five tons of extra-large Ecuadonia roses this morning. "Lots of people send out flowers on Sunday, withing people good lack." Says Fired Gibbons. and the owner of CLS Transportation moves on wishing people good luck," says Fred Gibbons. to the next problem. By midnight on Monday, who used to get orders from President Kennedy his 100 limos will have made more than 500 trips every Oscar weekend to send white roses to Marilyn Monroe. "Sharon Stone was in here last week sending

flowers to Martin Scorsese," he says, "We also send out more than 1,000 orders the day after. to all the winners and presenters. It's a little nutty, you might call it excessive. There's an atmosphere of one-upmanship. Last year we sent more than 100 different arrangements to Jessica Lange after she won Best Actress. When somebody wins, everybody wants to be their friend." Some don't have the time to stop and smell

the roses. "The moment the names are announced we get calls," says Jake at Body by Jake. "The women want to trim down in time. We have designed six special programmes combining diet and exercise that are varied to meet the size of the problem." That can be vast. "Last year we had a big star.

I can't say her name. She needed to lose 201b in four days. We put her on the treadmill and fed her nothing but camomile tea." Jake's clients include John Travolta, Sharon Stone and Meryl Streep, "The Oscars are seen by more than one pillion people; it's not the night to look flabby." Or underdressed. Jeweller Harry Winston will

make sure that every important actress at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion gets to shine like the star she is. "We meet with celebrity clients from January onwards, looking for the right styles." says Ed Callaghan at the Beverly Hills branch. Big stones and settings are in this year." Winston offers a great deal. His gems cost millions, but for Oscar night he lends them. "We

think it is a privilege and an honour," says Callaghan. You bet, plus Harry must get a big kick out of purring over all those beautiful dames, who this year include Whoopi, Elisabeth Shue (Leaving Las Vegas, Best Actress), Susan Sarandon (Dead Man Walking, Best Actress). and our very own Emma (Sense and Sensibilite, Best Actress and Best Screenplay). "Miss Thompson will be wearing two-carat

diamond carstuds in platinum." says Callaghan. "They retail for about \$200,000." Tip money compared to Susan Sarandon, the big favourite to win. "We have dressed her in sapphire-anddiamond bracelets with earrings to match." Price? "Oh. probably around \$1.5m."

Those who don't get invited to borrow Winston's gems have to find their own. Competition to get on his list can equal the fight for an Oscar, "Actresses have been upset," says Callaghan. That's an understatement. One famous English actress once screamed abuse at employees for half an hour after she had not been asked to flaunt Harry's rocks.

The jewels are important, not just because of the awards; they also come in handy at the post-Oscar parties. The granddaddy, the Governors' Ball, is held next to the Academy auditorium. Some of the 2,000 extra security guards hired every year will funnel the newly crowned royalty of film into an extravaganza that entered its

planning stage 10 months ago. "This year will be the most fabulous ever." says David Corwin of the aptly named Ambrosia productions, "There will be 160 tables for 1,600 guests. The centrepiece will be 5ft high with French tulips. will be prepared by more than 50 chefs."



Imagine you have just won an Oscar. You trip lightly down darkened corridors past some of the 1.200 members of the Awards' audience who don't have a ball ticket. You then enter Corwin's creation. Forty-one thousand square feet of can-vas stretch the length of a football field. It has been artfully decorated with Lycra and Spandex screens to give the impression of a cathedral complete with flying buttresses.

Lighting makes the ceiling look a deep blue. like the night sky. From above hang chandeliers, each one weighing more than 1,000lb and incorporating hand-blown glass sculptures. You sit at your table and eat free-range yeal followed by Oscar's favourite chocolate cake with wild berries. You are in heaven.

"The setting will cost millions of dollars." says Corwin. "Nothing like it will have been seen before. Sadly, few members of the moviegoing public will get a glimpse. Cameras are forbidden - if the stars try to bring their own they will be confiscated.7

The dedicated star has to make all the big parties. Miramax, with 11 nominations for II Postino and Georgia, will hold its party in Spago's, where the legendary agent "Swifty" Lazar used to hold court. After his death, the award for Best Party became an open race. The Miramax bash will be jostling with Vanity Fair's

do at Morton's, the ultimate Hollywood power restaurant. Wolfgang Puck, Spago's innovative chef, is also making his duck pizzas for the Governors' Ball and has hired two helicopters to shuttle him between the two. He expects to make the journey at least four times.

"Getting the guest list right is so important," says Beth Kesniak, the Vanity Fair organiser. We have had screaming matches. Last year one actress was turned away at the door holding her Oscar because a young assistant didn't recognise her. But it's a wonderful evening, nothing is overdone." Surely she jests? "I mean, I'm from New York and, yes, the people are overdone, but everything else is subtle."

Meanwhile, Emma Thompson will be fêted by Columbia at Drai's. "We have been badgered for tickets by BBC people for weeks," moans Drai's Adam Gordon. "I'm up to my ears in the BBC. Frankly, I have better things to do."

Army Archerd has covered the Oscars for Variety since 1972. "There is no one party that is the best any more," he sighs. "The party to be at will be the one for whoever wins."

The only people who know the winners now are Frank Johnson and Greg Garrison of Price Waterhouse. This weekend the names of this year's Best this and Best that sit in a downtown bank vault. Come Monday, Johnson and Gar-every winner always, always remembers."

rison will take their own copies of the envelopes and place them in briefcases chained to their wrists. Then they get into separate limousines which will take different routes to the ceremony.

The show will be produced this year by the record producer Quincy Jones, who also did the honours in 1994. He began rehearsals six weeks ago. "The show is a daunting logistical prob-lem," says Jones. "We have 22 cameras inside and three outside to make sure we get all the reactions from the nominees." All this week, cardboard cut-outs of the nominees have been placed in their designated seats and 36 actors have been hired to give phoney acceptance speeches (insiders say these are usually better

than the real thing).

Fifty Oscars will be distributed in over four. hours; each one took five hours to make by a hand-casting method first used in 1929. And each one is engraved with a serial number and will arrive inside an armoured car. "Once all the parties are over, this is what the winners have left," says Owen Siegel, who owns RS Owen, the Oscar manufacturer since 1983. The flowers: die. The hair falls down. The dresses go out of fashion. Nobody really recalls the parties. But when they wake up, there it is - the most famous trophy on the planet. I think that's the moment



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arts reviews

THEATRE Mary Stuart

When two Queens go to war. By Paul Taylor

The British theatre, we're often told, has shillyshallied over Schiller. That's true enough, I though our neglect of Germany's great national dramatist has been rather less shameful this past decade. Three years ago (a mere two centuries after it was written), the RSC, for example, gave the English professional premiere of Wallenstein, an extraordinary epic study of the conflict between heroic character and the workings of Realpolitik. The Robbers, his youthful Sturm und Drang play and one uncannily pre-scient not just of the French Revolution but of its sobering aftermath, now regularly crops up on our stages, while the proudest record for Schiller revivals belongs to the Glasgow Citizens' Theatre, which recently mounted Don Carlos.

Slowly, we are beginning to overcome our two most powerful prejudices about this author. These are (a) that his plays are like postdated blueprints for Shakespearian drama and (h) that they have all the appeal of a Verdi opera minus the music.

Making a somewhat belated plunge into Schiller, the National Theatre is now staging Mary Stuan, a play that focuses on the last days of its eponymous tragic heroine. It explores the contrast between Protestant Elizabeth, whose sexuality has been kept purched down to a certain grizzly flirtutiousness in the interests of state craft and Catholic Mary, who may have been betrayed by her impulsive sensuality but who. paradoxically less of a prisoner than her captor. has by the end decided to convert that physical energy into a sublime spiritual self-purification.

Howard Davies's production has a number of strong assets. Anna Massey, whose diction could kill at a hundred yards, and Isabelle Huppert, whose Gallic-vowelled delivery sometimes sound like an attempt to sprint through glue. are both ideal in terms of physical presence. Under the white make-up and the orange wig. Massey's face is disturbingly simian and desiccated, her frame shrunken with bitterness. Fists shaking in pent-up frustration, the beautiful Huppert devours the stage with the animal vigour of a refined thoroughbred.



Gallic delivery: Isabelle Huppert devours the stage with the vigour of a refined thoroughbred

Puzzlingly, though, the production appears to be suffering from a very English embarrassment at the play's moral seriousness. The watershed meeting of the queens at Fotheringay and Mary's sacramental preparation for death are handled

sively camp and winning depiction of the undignified workings of Realpolitik. Jeremy Sams's translation sets the tone for this when it has Tim Pigott-Smith's slippery, airily self-regarding Leicester describe the attempt to steer Elizabeth well enough. It's just that, in this staging, they are into a French marriage as "the wish to frogmarch in danger of making less impact than the exces- you - I use the word advisedly - to the altar".

There are some very funny sequences, such moments with an all-too-evident relief, as as the amazing scene where, having at last signed Mary's death warrant. Elizabeth, with a lofty, calculating evasiveness, leaves the but you feel that it's not the last, or even the responsibility for deciding whether to deliver it or not to an understandably terrified new courtier. The production falls on such

though happiest with what can be played for

laughs. This is a far from unrewarding evening,

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antepenultimate, word on Mary Stuart.

Photograph: Steart Morris

CLASSICAL Cleveland Orchestra / Dohnányi (RFH, London). Nice programming, shame about the jet-lag. By Anthony Payne

It was Atmosphers that introduced and exactness of Lighti's aural imagination for this country to a newly benation soon begin to make their comguiling and utterly original voice during the early 1960s. Some felt that what Ligeti had given us in his densely timbral work was a little too easily achieved and one-dimensional. What had happened to rhythm, thematic line and functional harmony? At first the baby appeared to have been thrown out with the bathwater, but closer acquaintance revealed a teeming activity within the slowly shifting soundlier structural methods.

Ligeti has come far since those days. exploring much more hard-edged material of late, but Aimospheres, which opened the Cleveland Orchestra's concert on Thursday, can still fascinate the car and engage the musical mind. If the progress from one conglomeration of sound-events to another seems at first

pelling points. Certainly the orchestra secured our rapt attention with its fastidious and concentrated delivery of the work's vastly quiet processes under Christoph von Dohnányi.

At first sight, it looked odd to follow Aumosphéres with Wagner's Lohengrin prelude, but it proved a thought-provoking juxtaposition. Dohnányi moved without a break from the ghostly final masses – a so-called micropolyphony – sonorities and three bars of silence that and the composer's timbral developments comprise. Ligeti's cadence into the poem, making an extraordinary link

from radiant heights to richly sonorous middle-ground was firmly caught by Dohnányi and his orchestra, but the playing in this surprising opening linkage was not to be equalled later. Perhaps jet-lag had taken its toll but, for whatever reacasually improvisatory, the cogency son, energies and involvement seemed tural address,

there was little of the eagerness and buovancy which this inspirational music has it in its power to generate. Rhythms plodded and the glorious lyric spans remained obstinately earthbound. Whatever unthinking commentators have said in the past about Schumann's treatment of the orchestra, the sound of this music can glow and sparkle, but conductor and orchestra here failed to rise to its challenge.

Nor was Stravinsky's The Firebird, ing. Too many orchestral details were fluffed or blurred, and the impetuosi-The glowing progress of the prelude ty of the young composer's imagination was rarely given its due.

This was simply a great orchestra a little out of sorts with itself, and only in a touchingly performed encore from Berlioz's The Damnation of Faust did we hear a little more engagement and tex-

TELEVISION Between the Tides

The ravishing documentary that wants to be a ballet. By Jasper Rees

Petween the Tides was a wildlife the words that accompany it are obliged time it wrong or walk too far from fixmer documentary that yearned to be to impart the barest minimum of infor- land, and you are sure to drown. The documentary that yearned to be something else: watery landscape painting, perhaps, or a soaring string quartet, or a fragrant prose poem. Anything, in short, but what the disciples of the genre expect: more Gainsborough than Attenborough.

The subject was Britain's estuaries, though as for which ones, the film kept its cards pretty close to its chest. The adjective "Hebridean" did once migrate loftily across the soundtrack, but more out of any keenness to pin these images to the map. Otherwise, the film took care not to get bogged down in anything so turgid as place names. There was the odd mention of "Africa" or "Greenland" but in this context they sounded as imaginary as Illyria.

Photography this ravishing presents a troublesome dilemma to a wildlife programme maker. To justify their existence, these estuaries, we were advised, "but played out in the deepening light".

mation. But plain facts can look naked. so to pack the same aesthetic punch as the pictures, the captions have to be primped and plumped and read by Tom Conti ar erawork could have gone the distance made was more important.

In such a crowd of metaphors, one or two were bound to get mixed. As the tide land, and you are sure to drown". The Ancient Mariner is alive and well and working out of BBC Bristol. Ian McCarthy's breathtaking cam-

his crackliest. A flock of geese are "a con- without accompaniment. The images he quering army, thousands strong". They enticed through his lens seemed cal-"pour in from the sea, spilling the wind culated to deepen the mysteries of to numble earthwards in a sudden rush of nature rather than explain them. There wings". Or maybe it was rushing the wind was the usual gobsmacking panoply of to pour earthwards in a sudden tumble of sunsets, rainbows and torrential showwings. Or pouring the earth to spill wing- ers that anyone with the right apparabecause of its lyrical communion wards in a sudden spill of wind. It actu- tus might capture. But some shots spattered across the sky like flecks of paint; knots roosting at high tide like clustered refugees; of globulous water went out the creeks were "muddy arter- creeping in close up over the mud flats. ies"; by the time it turned they had grown In the finest shot of all the camera held "fingertips". And the sense of danger the firm as a flock of waders looped and film attempted to create was mere vul-swirled in and out of the frame towards gar sensationalism unworthy of its higher the cloudy horizon. A real perforantistic purpose. Humans can stroll on mance. Oh, all right, "a languid ballet





Send in the clowns

at the press call for the tourth annual Clown Parade. On Sunday, the clowns will march on Hackney, and attempt, through leafleting and falling over on banana skins, to woo children back to church. I am surrounded by 40 clowns, honking their horns, falling over banana skins, and so on. Forty clowns and 10 photographers. crowded into a tiny back room. It is a media circus (honk! honk!), a frenzy of organised pathos. The local vicar – cum organiser – is attempting to smile amiably through the chaos, but the tension on his face is palpable. he

"Excuse me," he announces. "Um, Excuse me. I have an announcement to make..." "Announcement! Announcement!" yells Fizzy-Lizzy the Clown, honking her horn.

"Anouncey-nouncy! Mousey Mousey Mousey!" screams Billy the Clown, his bow-tie flashing.

As impressive as the course. As the century began, turnout is today, however. the numbers are down on last year, which was, in turn, way down on the year before. Like the Armistice Day commemorations, this venerable left are almost certainly cryphoto-opportunity, in fact, is public (a trivial yet potent

backstage in a small church very ailing Smokey the Clown, whose attendance here succeeds in single-handedly per- and the bloody genocide of sonifying the lamentable demise of a cherished British tradition: a very old clown sitting in a church while clutching a Union Jack in his timeworn, grease-paint splattered hands - if only someone had thought to bring along an end of a pier with them. the set would have been complete. Consequently, the photographers flock. "Ooh," he wheezes. attempting to cover up his

shakily drawn black-ink shakily drawn black-ink "We're doing this," explains Smokey-the-Clown tattoo. the vicar, "to show that God "I'm afraid I can't do somer-saults anymore. But hang can have a jolly good laugh too. We all slip on banana on..." He fumbles around in his pocket for an age, and eventually retrieves a small plastic comedy spider. "Ooh," he says, waving it in

front of the cameras. "Scary. Ooh." And then he stares forlornly into space for a long time, to the palpable delight of the photographers. It wasn't always this way, of

clowns stood at the very apex of comedy. There was nothing funnier than falling over, and those who fell over in a professional capacity were rewarded handsomely. As the event is tinged with woeful decades progressed - sadly - statistics. The clowns are the backlash began. First decades progressed - sadly dying off, and those that are Smokey Robinson suggested that the smiles on their faces ing on the inside. The main were only there just to fool the

is Thursday, Dalston, reserved for the very old and slur). Thereafter, Ronald McDonald created a terrifying link between red noses countless clowns, and John Osborne successfully implied that they all went home, drank a bottle of whisky, and shouted at their wives. The final nail in the coffin, however, arrived with the awful discovery that the serial killer, John Wayne Gacy, dressed up as a clown (big shoes, bow-tie that lit up, and all) when he viciously butchered his young victims. It proved to be an irreparable setback.

> skins in our lives, and when we want to throw a brick-bat at someone, we should stop and put down that brick-bat and lob a well-aimed custard pie instead." All metaphored out, I qui-

ctly take refuge in a pew near the altar. Suddenly, there is a tap on my shoulder.

"Excuse mc," says a fierce looking lady. "Are you a Shocked, and slightly upset,

I look down at my carefully selected casual jumper and "No," I reply, lamely. "I'm from the Independent."

Well go and sit somewhere else," she snaps. "This is for the clowns. It's not very fair. you sitting in a clown's seat, is it? It's not very funny, is it?"

COMEDY Disgracefully Yours James Rampton has a hell of a time with Richard O'Brien

are always likely to call it a show from hell. Disgracefully Yours is by means diabolical, but it is far from heavenly.

In his latest show, Richard O'Brien dons a red-lined dinner jacket, horns and a pointy tail to play Mephistopheles Smith, Lucifer's henchman sent to convince us that hell is now "a groovy and happening place". On a spartan stage with only a vase of flowers and backing musicians for company, he set about this by lashing us with rock numbers and enough dou-

He has a mean way with a

one-liner and energy to burn. I got exhausted just watching him conga around the stage during "The Best Has Yet to Come From Me". Although they never got into Rocky Horror-style singalongs or bondage-kit, the audience greeted every wag of Mephistopheles' tail with delinious whoops.

It still doesn't quite feel like a cult in the making, however. For a start, there were far too many pinstripes in the audience. But the main drawback

The danger with a show from bles entendres to keep Julian is the quality of O'Brien's hell is that cheap-shot critics Clary supplied for weeks. songs. Despite solid backing songs. Despite solid backing from finger-snapping, tutuwearing singers and vast quantities of dry ice, none of the numbers has the catchiness of, say, "Timewarp" from Rocky Horror. You can't imagine that a soundtrack album from the show would be greatly troubling the scorers at Gallup.

The Devil may have all the best tunes, but he doesn't seem to have lent too many to his mate Mephistopheles.

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Confessions of a Worcestershire lad

This month marks the centenary of the publication of Housman's 'A Shropshire Lad'. Here, Peter Parker re-evaluates its stoical creator

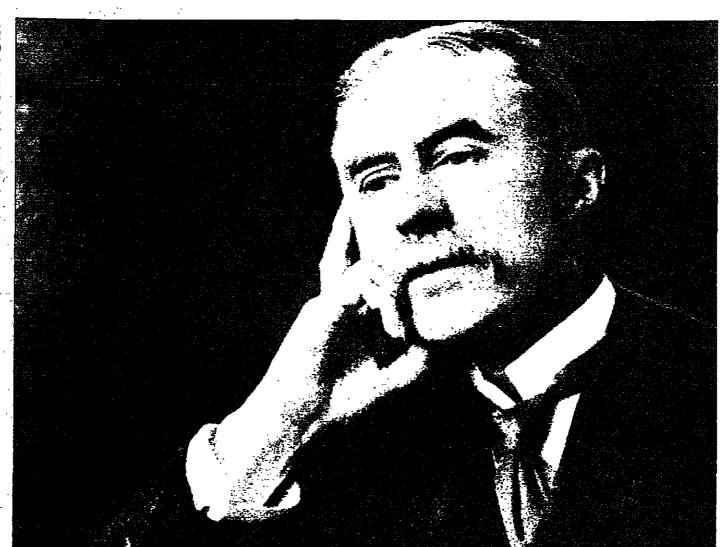
ne hundred years ago this month a small volume of poems was published by Kegan Paul in an edition of 500 copies at half-a-crown each. The author, a 37-year-old professor of Latin at University College London called Alfred Edward Housman, had been obliged to pay £30 towards the cost of publication. A small slow trickle of reviews was led by the Times. which, in a round-up of "Books of the Week" on 27 March, noted that: "Mr Housman has a true sense of the sweetness of country life and of its tragedies too, and his gift of melodious. expression is genuine."

Other réviewers were less faint in their praise, but there is little in their pronounce-ments to suggest that A Shropshire Lad would become, and remain, one of the best-loved volumes of poetry in the language. By the end of the year its combined sales in Britain and the US amounted to only 381 copies. The first edition did not sell out until two years later, and only then because Housman's brother Laurence (also a poet) bought up the remaining copies.

"So Alfred has a heart after all," a member of his family remarked after reading the book. Indeed he had, and he lost it to a man called Moses Jackson, with whom he had been at Oxford and later shared rooms in London. The majority of Housman's poems most directly concerned with this one-sided love affair were published in later volumes, but A Shropshire Lad is suffused with barely repressed longing for "lads" who (like Jackson) were more interested in "lasses" than in Latinists. This submerged background to the book may have been recognised by sympathetic homosexual readers, but it would hardly commend the poems to the general public, or explain why they became part of the fabric of the twentieth century.

The growth in popularity of the book was most marked during the early years of the century: in 1905 it sold 886 copies; by 1911 the average yearly sale was 13,500 copies. Sales were undoubtedly boosted by the large number of composers who made settings from Housman's poems during this period, which had seen a renaissance in British music and a rediscovery of traditional folksong. Housman deplored these settings, but never actually prevented them; indeed, his refusal to accept payment may have actively encouraged composers. Among the settings, either individually or as song cycles, are ones by Arthur Somervell (1904), Balfour Gardiner (1906), Ivor Gurney (1908), Ralph Vaughan Williams (1909), George Peel (1910) and George Butterworth (1911 and 1912). Later songs include those by John Ireland (1917), E.J. Moran (1920), Arnold Bax (1920) and C.W. Orr (1934). Although the poet did his best to avoid hearing any of them, several are very fine indeed and a number of recordings are still in

Few of these composers knew, or were



City slicker : AE Housman wrote the entire volume while living in Hampstead

cent of the population lived in rural areas; but for many people, the word "England" still conjured up a vague landscape of the sort depicted in Housman's verse, and in the poetry of the Georgians, which also flourished at this period. For many people, it still does.
In search of Housman's "far country", how-

ever, thousands of pilgrims have followed E. M. Forster, who in 1907 went on a Shropshire Lad walking tour, noting landmarks made familiar by the poems: Ludlow, Wenlock Edge, Hughley Steeple, "Severn shore" and the "high vanes" of Shrewsbury. Housman actually wrote the entire volume in Hampstead, and chose most of the place-names for their cuphonious qualities.

A Worcestershire lud, he had spent his specifically celebrating, Shropshire: Housman's childhood on the outskirts of Bromsgrove. (The adopted county had become representative of first line of one of his best-loved poems origian idealised rural England. The drift away from nally ran: "Tis time, 1 think, by Stourbridge

were our western horizon." That horizon was immortalised in his most famous poem ("Into my heart an air that kills") as the "blue remembered hills" that mark "the land of lost content", and it is phrases such as these, rather than topographical reference points, that lodge in the mind. The fact that, for instance, the church at Hughley, far from being a "far-known sign", is buried in a valley does not in the end much matter to readers - or to tourist boards who need to entice people to "Housman Country". The poet reached a geographical compromise in death: his ashes were buried in Ludlow, but in leaf-mould imported from his childhood home

in Worcestershire. By 1914 A Shropshire Lad entered the nation's bloodstream, and Housman's vision of "lads that will die in their glory and never be old" was about to be very thoroughly fulfilled. Many of the poems feature doomed youths, and the countryside towards the industrial towns town...".) "I had a sentimental feeling for some of them are in uniform. "Soldiers march- the hearts of lads". There is no record of this it transforms the personal and specific into and cities was such that, by 1911, under 22 per Shropshire," he explained, "because its hills ing, all to die". Discovered in the classroom. happening, although one of the war's most something universal.

these verses provided models for the soldierpoets of the First World War, and we find both Rupert Brooke and C.H.Sorley delivering lectures on the poems to their schools' literary societies. In 1913 Brooke declared Housman as "the only true poet in England", while Sorley's much-anthologised "All the hills and vales along echoes. A Shropshire Lad in its ironically jaunty defiance.

The descendants of Housman's ploughboys-turned-soldiers populate the poetry of Wilfred Owen and Siegfried Sussoon, both of whom shared their predecessor's romantic compassion for "lovely lads" soon to be "dead and rotten". A special miniature wartime edition of the book was produced, designed to be slipped into the breast pocket of uniforms. where Housman fondly hoped it might one day deflect one of the bullets which (as Owen put it in a Housmanic phrase) "long to nuzzle in

famous poems, Patrick Shaw-Stewart's untitled verses beginning "I saw a man this morning / Who did not wish to die, was first scribbled by the author on the flyleaf of Housman's book. The Times printed some of the poems on a broadsheet to be distributed in the trenches and by 1918 the book itself was selling some 16.000 copies a year, despite the fact that it had doubled in price.

"My chief object in publishing my verses was to give pleasure to a few young men here and there," Housman once said. In this he undoubtedly succeeded, and many of those young men went on to be writers, thus extending Housman's influence well beyond the First World War. "To my generation, no other English poet seemed so perfectly to express the sensibility of the male adolescent," wrote W.H. Auden, several of whose early poems are modelled on Housman's. The volume's mood of romantic melancholy, its railing against the injustices of life, naturally appeals to the young, and it is in adolescence that poetry strikes home most forcefully, even among those who may never read poetry thereafter.

Boys of Auden's generation, who spent hours in the classroom studying Greek and Latin literature, were familiar, as Cyril Connoliv put it, with "love and death and the fate of youth and beauty". Furthermore, Housman's language - although occasionally archaic - is straightforward, his rhythms strong, and all this adds up to a poetry of deceptive simplicity, appealing to the senses as much as the intellect. John Betjeman praised (and imitated) its "recitability", and Connolly's fellow-Etonian, George Orwell, claimed to have the entire volume by heart - although, like Connolly, he later grew disenchanted. Others didn't, and Connolly's brutal reassessment in the New Statesman shortly after Housman's death in 1936 caused howls of outrage. Housman continued to haunt later generations: Kingsley Amis's poem "A.E.H." is an affectionate and moving pastiche, while the work of Philip Larkin has obvious affinities of tone.

It was Larkin who observed that "Housman is the poet of unhappiness; no one else has reiterated his single message so plangently. Housman's evocation of loss - the loss of love, of youth, of life - strikes a chord with most people. While the poet's redcoats, ploughboys and rose-lipt maidens have long since come to dust, the feelings that animated them remain.

"I think that to transfuse emotion - not to transmit thought but to set up in the reader's sense a vibration corresponding to what was felt by the writer - is the peculiar function of poetry," Housman said in a lecture. Even if we do not suffer from unrequited love, we all have our lands of lost content, and you don't need to know Shropshire or know about Moses Jackson to respond to this poetry. Housman's Shropshire was a landscape of the imagination. his book a gazetteer of the heart. Although occasionally clumsy and even absurd. A Shropshire Lud does what good literature should do:

A charge into the footnotes of history

The Great War changed warfare and the military for ever. Jan Morris feels a pang for the passing of the cavalry

n March 1914 the officers of the British Third Cavalry Brigade, sta-tioned at the Curragh in Ireland, put paid to Herbert Asquith's Irish Home Rule Bill by making it clear that they would never go into action against the militant Unionists of Ulster. They doubtless agreed with their conmanding general, Sir Arthur Paget, that they would not take orders from "those swines of politicians", only from His Majesty the King.

This fateful insubordination was perhaps the last decisive intervention of the equestrian classes in British history - the last insolent gesture of the knights who had for so many centuries clanked and jangled their lordly way through the nation's affairs. It opens this penultimate volume of Lord Anglesey's History of the British Cavaby, which also covers the first six months of the Great War, and it gives the whole book an allegorical tinge. The horsed patricians and their retainers were entering their last decade, and never again would hussars, dragoons and lancers be able to exert such moral pressure as they did

at the Curragh that spring.

Nor, for that matter, would they exert decisive military pressure. At the fulcrum of the war which was so soon to break out, the cavalry would play a smaller role than in any previous great conflict. It is symbolically as well as militarily true that the last lanceto-lance charge ever made by British cavalry, by the 9th Lancers at Mon-cel in September 1914, was in Anglesey's words "thoroughly ineffective" (even though the 9th were led by Lieutenant-Colonel David Campbell, who had won the Grand National on

The Sourer in 1896...) This is the seventh volume of Lord Anglesey's magnificent history, and by the nature of things it is the palest. Once we are out of Ireland, into the early battlefields of the Great War, little that happens is central to great effects. The cavalry formed a minor part of the British Army in France, and the British themselves, in November 1914, held only 21 miles of the western front compared with 430 A History of the British Cavalry by The Marquess of Anglesey Leo Cooper, £35.00

Lord Anglesey has stuck to his role as a chronicler specifically of the cavalry, giving us only the sketchiest outlines of general strategy. In recalling the opening months of the war - the first German advances, the retreat from Mons, the battle of the Marne, Joffre's great offensive- he is often reduced to blow-by-blow descriptions of skirmishes almost unnoticeable in a wider view of the conflict.

Not that the British cavalry was insignificant. It was undoubtedly the best in Europe at that time, baving learnt much from its experiences in the Boer war - notably the skilful use of the rifle in dismounted combat. General Allenby indeed thought his Cavalry Corps "the best-trained officers and men that had ever taken the. field in European war". If they were sometimes timidly used by the higher command (though certainly no more timidly than the German cavalry). they seem to have fought their petty actions with all their legendary flair - the "View-Halloo" spirit, brought from Galway or the shires to these more awful fields of death.

The author assures us that the cavalry action fought at Nery in September 1914, together with other generally forgotten small battles, was crucial to the entire Allied resistance plates, mess tins, knives and forks. in France - even, in the long run, to the conclusion of the war. Nevertheless the interest of his book lies far - brought from South Africa. more in its detail than in its surmises. Throughout his immense task he has outlaged with potash dye, applied with always liked to call himself an amateur: and although his volumes are scrupulously scholarly, equipped with the full apparatus of historical research, endlessly patient in their listing of units and movements, still it is his exuberant love of the subject that gives the work its unique charm.

Some of his anecdotes, it is true. seem rather less hilarious today than



'The last lance-to-lance charge of the cavalry': the charge of the 9th Lancers at Moncel in 1914

they probably did in 1914, but the book is fascinatingly full of asides, cross-references and allusions. Here are a few:

•The 20th Hussars, having no spades, dug their trenches with broken •The Royal Dragoons were Noodles".

mounted on Basuto ponies they had · Light-coloured horses were cam-

whitewash brushes, •Sergeant Smeltzer of the 12th Lancers was given a commission: within two years he commanded an infantry battalion and had won a

DSO and bar and an MC. •The Queen's Own Oxfordshire Hussars were variously known as "The Agricultural Cavalry" or "Queer Objects On Horseback"

 Cavalry officers sometimes relied on maps torn out of railway timetables, and spelt place-names phonetically because they knew them only from the replies of local people.

•The Northumberland Hussars Yeomanry were also known as "The •Brigadier-General Richard Lucas

Mullens was known as "Gobby Chops". "That's the way to serve them bastards", said Trooper Bellingham of the so would the horses that were the 1st Life Guards, having run a surrendering German through with his sword (he wiped the blood off on his

But for me it is the allegory that means most. All over Europe the cavalry was about to die, and with it the last remnants of feudalism, as of chivalry. The grey-cloaked German Uhlans, the French Cuirassiers in

horse's mane).

their plumed helmets, the English huntsmen with their high spirits and nicknames - all were relics of a soonto-be-lost society, and it is no coincidence that German and British cavalry regiments sometimes shared the same Colonels-in-chief - kings, queens and princes from the doomed

hierarchy of Europe. Within a generation, most of the kings and queens would be gone, and ancient emblems of nobility. The proud old regiments would be trundling about in tanks, and Gobby Chops. The Noodles and the Agricultural Cavalry, even the Third Cavalry Brigade at the Curragh, would be hardly more than curious footnotes

Only those swine, the politicians, would ride on regardless.

A WEEK IN BOOKS

orget the London Book Fair. Keener joys were to be had at the Publishers' Association Centenary Conference writes Richard Tyrell. This offered the sight of angst-laden publishers wondering if they should be training their reps to sell CD-Roms rather than

books. They all rather missed the point.

The point was the decline of the novel and this was the topic of George Steiner's keynote address. Steiner cited a newly-discovered papyrus from the fifth-century; a critical work predicting that Homer's Odyssey had no future (too long, too repetitive, all those rosy-fingered dawns). But he also bore within him a warning from his Engineering colleagues at Cambridge. They are, he said, very close to inventing a small-scale display unit - a screen that imitates a page, clearly printed. Their units could give you access to all 14 million items in the Library of Congress. You can turn any of its pages at any speed. It's easy to carry. more responsive than any book, and just a few years away.

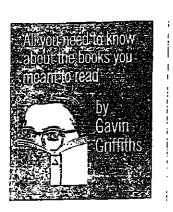
So what hope for traditional publishing or fiction? The novel has already been written off by none other than VS Naipaul, who said in the Observer last month that it began to flag after 1895. And Gilbert Adair has written of today's novelists being "failures" in comparison to the standards of Stendhal. Steiner added his voice to these distinguished writers, but there was a quiet air of subversion at the conference. Brenda Maddox, the journalist. pointed out that the IT revolution might bring new art forms, but these would take their place alongside novels, film and painting. The clincher came from Matthew Evans of Faber. who forecast that readers would simply print out texts they wanted to read - ie put them

back on a page.

So finally we're down to the bottom line who on earth wants to read books by computer? Only a masochist would sit staring at Sense and Sensibility on PC. The development of taste for literature presupposes the book, and once you have a taste for literature you will want to buy novels, and writers will want to write them.

Steiner fears, of course, that the young will not develop such tastes. But this reminds me of the poet Richard Hugo, who in his last years wrote a poem giving exact instructions for his funeral in the hope that by exaggerating the

event he might lessen his fear of it. The funeral of the novel is far less certain. The safest prediction is that readers will use the witty new technology as an aide-de-camp for novels and art galleries, not as a surrogate. And books will always have one huge advantage over expensive portable technology: nobody will mug you in the subway saying "Hand over the Dickens or else..."



ANDROMACHE (1667) by Jean Racine

Plet: Pyrrhus, King of Epirus is betrothed to Hermione, daughter of Menelaus, but loves Andromache, widow of the Trojan bero Hector. Orestes, sent by the Greeks to kill Andromache's son. s in love with Hermione. Pyrrhes blackmails: Andromache: either she marries him or her son-Astyanax is handed over to-Orestes for execution. Under pressure Andromache agrees to the marriage, but having secured her son's safety will Fill berself. Hermione meanwhile learns of Pyrrhus's plans to marry and is beside herself with tury. She tells Orestes that she will be his if he murders Pyrthus. This he does, then returns to Hermione expecting gratitude. Instead she rebutts him and kills. herself over Pyrrhus's corpse. Orestes goes mad. Andromache, now queen of Epirus is transformed

Theme: Love is an allconsuming amoral emotion that is both destructive and self-destructive. Love cuts across all gentler impulses and noble ideals, leaving them scarred and maimed.

from vicum to victrix

Style: Racine uses 12syllable rhyming couplets with a restricted vocabulary of 4000 words (Shakespeare uses 25,000).

Chief Strengths: There are no villains and yet cach character must bear some weight for the tragic denouement. As the action accelerates, Racine maintains a universal sympathy while remaining icily impersonal.

Chief weakness: For the Francophobe, the language can seem too starchy to be expressive, and the plot too didactically tidy to be

What they thought of it then: The play was a brilliant success. Racine's racy drama of driven sexuality made Corneille's ponderous plays of duty and patriotism seem dated and icitine.

What we think of it now: Along with Phèdre, it is one of Racine's greatest works. although British actors. trained to mouth Shakespeare, are inclined to turn the long rhetorical speeches in rant.

Responsible for: Craig Raine's 1953 which relocates the Second War Europe here the Axis powers have been triumphant.

cornera head.

Princess of Wales in extra-marital sex shock

Tactless, malodorous and embittered, Caroline of Brunswick was not a happy royal. But, says Lucy Hughes-Hallett, she was a goodnatured one

oor Caroline of Brunswick! She is chiefly remembered for the passion with which her husband. the Prince of Wales. detested her. His words at their first meeting have justly entered the collective memory as a good joke about a hellishly bad marriage: "Harris. I am not well, pray get me a glass of brandy." (The Princess's teeth were rotting and Lord Malmesbury, who had escorted her to England. had already telt obliged to give her some embarrassingly intimate advice about the need to wash her person and change her stockings more frequently - advice to which she apparently paid too little heed).

Twenty-five years later the cruel one-liners were still coming. On being informed that his "hitterest enemy" (the speaker meant Napoleon) was dead. King George IV (as he by then was) exclaimed "Is she, by God?" The latter remark stands as evidence not only of his ludicrous implacability but also of his frivolity. His unloved wife was a match for him in political feeklessness.

Touring Europe in 1814. separated from her husband but still firmly intending to be Queen, and not only of hearts, she chose to socialise. to the Foreign Office's despair, almost exclusively with Bonapartes. She even to attend a ball, she smeared abroad, she led a decreas-

of Caroline of Brunswick Macmillan, £20

called on Napoleon's Empress Marie Louise, but the visit was not a success. The Princess of Wales vawned so hard that she and her chair toppled over backwards. She laughed uproariously. The Empress. contemplating her upended feet, did not. It was not, though, for her

failings in an ambassadorial

The Unruly Queen: The Life

by Flora Fraser

role that this Princess of Wales was disgraced, ostracised and eventually tried in the House of Lords. but for doing what her hushand had always done with impunity, engaging in extramarital sex. Her reputation, even as a teenager, was shocking. Her future mother-in-law Queen Charlotte heard that "when she dances" (which she was seldom allowed to do) a governess followed her through the ballroom "to prevent her making an exhibition of herself by indecent conversation with men." She had already developed a wildly dangerous penchant for playing up to her detractors' worst slanders. When, at the age of 16, she was forbidden

ingly respectable, increasher face with white paste, ingly jotly life. She liked took to her bed screaming, and claimed to be in labour. boisterous party games, rude The ball was cancelled. Simjokes and staving up so late ilarly, years later, she was to as to exhaust her poor ladies. Spiteful observers remarked tease a new lady-in-waiting by referring to a protege, on her coarsening complexion and ridiculous clothes who was well known to be a launderess's son, as her own ("showing too much of her bastard, and when Walter naked figure"), but clever men. writers, politicians, travellers and scholars, were Scott came to call she whisked him off to the condrawn to her. George Can-ning and Thomas Lawrence servatory where she "asked me slily if I was not afraid to were both among her alleged lovers. In Italy, once be alone with her". By this time her love affairs, real or her husband's animosity had imaginary, had already been driven her to leave England, the subject of an official, she lived comfortably if disthough secret, enquiry. Clearly she found being stigreputably with a handsome matised as a depraved woman as titillating as it plebian lover, having attained, as Flora Fraser points out "perhaps the greatest liberty which any was cruel.

She had tried being good, English woman enjoyed." but her marriage never stood a chance. The Prince It was her insistence on came drunk to the wedding. being treated as Queen telling anyone who would which brought about her listen that Mrs Fitzherbert public humiliation, with her dirty bedlinen being picked was the only woman he would ever love. He passed over at the bar of the House of Lords, and she herself out under the grate that turned away by flunkeys from her husband's coronanight, and again three days later, having struck a gention. Her story might have tleman who was trying to dissuade him from visiting ended seedily but happily his old mistress. After little enough, had she only been more than a year of virtual content to go quietly. imprisonment in Carlton The parallels between her House, with her husband's

marriage and that of our latnew mistress Lady Jersey as ter-day Waleses are plentiful and piquant - he returning lady-in-waiting-cum-wardress. the Princess removed herself thankfully to the woman he to a house in Blackheath. had loved long before the There, and subsequently in marriage, she entertaining a Kensington Palace and mélange of good-looking as now, efforts to salvage the officers and celebrities in crown's prestige came close

Kensington Palace, while an ageing monarch begged them both to behave. Their use of publicity was as knowing as anything we have seen recently, and as much deplored by the older generation. For years King George III would refer to his

eldest son only as "The person who published my letters." The Princess put her case in a memoir, government agents spent the equivalent of £500,000, buying up copies to be burnt.

More importantly, then

to destroying it altogether. Only Robert Peel seems to have had the intelligence to grasp that "to establish a principle of detbronement for personal misconduct" was to open the door to republicanism

Flora Fraser has a nice dry wit and a finely balanced view of her subject's rather splendid silliness which makes this book, at times, very funny. Caroline was not a clever woman, nor boldly adventurous in the style of her one-time attendant Ladv Hester Stanhope. When she

gush ignorantly - "the dear Arabians and Turks are quite darlings" - and to buy gaudy frocks. But her good nature was so great, even her husband had to acknowledge it. She seems now more attractive than most of those who condemned her. "Nothing can appear more revolting to propriety than the Princess of Wales using another person's plate".

wrote one visitor, noticing her lover's (spurious) crest on the silver dishes. Nothing the princess ever did seems, in retrospect, as revolting as

'I might be anything. If a horse loved me, I might be that'

Meoldramatic, promiscuous and unaccountably homophobic, Djuna Barnes was always blessed with the gift of reinventing herself, says Philip Hoare

If the many eccentries that populate this academic study of a fabulous I menagerie, my favourite is the Baroness Elsa von Freytag Loringhoven. whom Djuna Barnes - her prinicipal patron - memorably described decanting from a Manhattan cab in 1916 wearing seventy black and purple anklets, a (cancelled) foreign postage stamp on her cheek in lieu of a beauty spot, and a purple wig entwined with strands from a

mooring cable.

Herring's book is full of such glimpses of bohemian life in New York, Paris and London. To footnote aficionados, Djuna Barnes's is an evocative name and image: her lips as pursed as those of her con-temporary fellow female rebel. Nancy Cunard; both women of a hard new century who had in turn hardened themand Zadel, her grandmother, a literary and sexual adventurer who had known Speranza Wilde in London. She and Djuna shared a bed for 15 years, where Zadel made her granddaughter play with her breasts. Djuna's polygamous father. Wald is said either to have raped his daughter as a young girl, or to have introduced her at the age of 16 to a middle-aged family friend who took it upon himself to do the deed. Such experiences left Djuna with a permanently wounded

The Life and Work of Diuna Barnes by Philip Herring Viking, £20

of which appears to have been spent in a depressive state: "Melancholia, melancholia, it rides me like a bucking mare". Yet it is the sort of state which created great art - and Herring maintains that Nightwood, a Gothic narrative of sexual obsession, is a landmark of modernism.

Djuna's early career progressed from decadent short stories and Beardslevan art (lamentably this book lacks any reproductions), through daring journalselves against the world. Barnes's background is a chronicle in itself, full of bizarrely-named relatives: Saxon, Buan writer status for McCall's, who sent her to Paris, the city which would fix her in literary history. She fell easily into the Lost Generation and a long succession of lovers, male and female. When asked if she were a lesbian, she replied, "I might be anything, if a horse loved me. I might

The great female love of her life was Thelma Wood, with whom Djuna smoked dope and conducted a nine-year. affair, she said she loved Thelma because she looked like her grandmother. Wood look, and a cynical outlook on life, much had already had affairs with Edna St Vin-



Djuna Barnes: sapphic rapture

cent Millay, and "on her knees proposed sex to Peggy Guggenheim" (Djuna's benefactress). She was, said a friend, "made for fucking". Together the pair were a remarkable sight; beautiful, black-caped and glued to each others' arms as they walked the Left Bank. They dallied with Natalie Barney's leshian salon. with Natalie Barney's lesbian salon, about whom Djuna wrote Ladies Almanack, a satire which Barney loved: Ryder was another satire, this time on her own family, a subject ripe for revenge in Diuna's smarting heart.

writing, a sort of post-trauma literary therapy. When Thelma and Djuna's marriage broke up bitterly, Barnes portrayed her savagely in Nightwood. The book was written patterly in Tangiers – where Djuna and her latest lover, Charles Henri Ford. had been invited by Paul Bowles and where she caused comment with her blue, green and purple make-up - and partly at Peggy Guggenheim's rented Devonshire mansion, Hayford Hall, renamed Hangover Hall by its selfabusive tenants.

Afraid of Dartmoor, Djuna stayed in her rococo bedroom and wove her narrative of the freaks of Nightwood. Herring's assessment of the book is incisive: "It argues that regardless of sexual orientation, human nature itself is perverted and grotesque, which is why people seek to remake themselves. We are all God's jokes. TS Eliot published it at Faber in 1936. subsequently writing a 1,500 word preface for its US publication. He liked its author so much that he kept her photograph on his wall, alongside those of WB Yeats and Groucho Marx.

Herring has taken on the mantle of Djuna's latter-day champion with evident relish and empathy. He points up the value of her work, with its bleak Nietschzean views and acidic, fantastic prose which mutated from decadence through to modernism. The high auto-

Revenge was a characteristic of her biographical content in Barnes's works is both a boon and a blessing for a biographer: switching from biographical fact to Barnesean fiction, Herring's lit crit approach can get in the way of the story. It also makes for occasional repetition, and can seem disjointed; a series of thematic essays rather than a cohesive whole. Yet these are minor caveats. Always entertaining, Herring revels in these spatting personalities of interwar

Bohemia as they fight their internecine battles for superiority.

Eliot also published Djuna's verse play. The Antiphon in 1957. Translated into Swedish by her new friend, Dag Hammarskjold, and premiered in Stockholm it was a further literary revenue on holm, it was a further literary revenge on her family, who had violated her person once again by sending her to a sanatorium to treat her alcoholism.

But by that time Djuna had left Europe for good, and the rest of her life was spent holed up in Greenwich Village, where she became unaccountably homophobic, hating her reputation as a lesbian writer. An attempt to write the fabulous Elsa's biography came to nothing - Djuna complained that the book kept trying to become poetry - and she published little in her later years.

Having made two attempts at suicide. she died in 1982, largely unknown and uncelebrated. Herring's book will do much to correct that sad lapse of taste on the part of posterity.



of precocious maturity which mingles past and present, the norrors and delights of Hairi, in a Leanie from Ephace quiet and dignified prose that would be where breath eight and impressive in a writer monery are one a place. twice her age pent which year chang year past like the the home

INDEPENDENT

(ABACUS)

Suburbia's lonely hearts club band

Emma Hagestadt enjoys a spooky tale of mating rituals and dating nightmares

ouise Doughty writes about people who don't usually get written about. Young women who commute in from London's less salubrious suburbs (Catford. Simon and Schuster, £9.99 Burnt Oak, East Burnet) who understand the inner workings of the office PC, and buy their earemployed information consultants always home in time for Brookside.

First there's Bet. She's 27, prone to cystitis and "as promiscuous as Hell". Having lost her boyfriend, just unfaithful. Peter (who suffered a head-on collearning to be single again. Iris is a small child (possibly Peter's), thing Londoners like no one else them by the age of six."

by Lousie Boughty

rings at Next. Her heroines are self- a paler version of Bet. She spends her weekends not in strange men's who surf the Internet and are beds but moping in local cafes, worrying that she should be doing the hoovering instead. Her exboyfriend (also Peter) isn't dead,

Just as you're wising up to lision on the Watford by-pass three Doughty's game, a third heroine weeks after their first date), she's pops up. Another Iris. This Iris has and sexual drives of twentysome-

and lives alone in pebble-dashed splendour in Burnt Oak.

Doughty's intention gradually become clearer. Bet and Iris are ghostly imitations of each other, and before their story is over some supernatural antics are staged in spooky basements and badly-lit attics. But through all the smokescreens Doughty throws up, one thing is apparent: all the Irises and

Bet are heading for a breakdown. female novelist, Doughty gives the old chestnut a new spin, and goes on to monitor the lonesome hearts

around. Every bit as skilled as her contemporaries, Alain de Botton and Julie Myerson, her writing has a pessimistic edge which makes her books all the funnier.

Dance with Mc is a painfully accurate record of mating rituals and dating nightmares. Iris's evenings spent playing the part of the "new" girl-friend with Peter's best friends, Alex and Sophie (a horribly smug couple "as plump and blonde" as While it can't be said that disso-ciation is an original theme for a swill Bet's night with Bill, a man who after a meal at the Taj Mahai displays himself (one part in particular) with "the kind of self-regard which women have knocked out of

But it's when it comes to loneli-There's a touching moment in the Cittle of Yorke pub, when Iris and her old friend George finally acknowledge that that no spark will give fly between them. ever fly between them. A poignant scene, particularly given the book's conclusion that being alone is

enough to drive you mad. Less ambitious than Doughty's previous novel, Crazy Paving, Dance with Me is not without its eccentricities. For all its revelling in the world of Sainsbury's aisles and Holborn wine bars it is, after all, a novel about delusions - particularly the kind women have

Collection mania

Colin Greenland on a manly tale of heartbreak

eaders put off by abstract, technical-sounding titles need have no fear. Particle Theory is a proper novel, more or less, and not at all theoretical, though it hums with social and psychological commentary. Alternately, it tells two separate stories - one an old-fashioned thrilling adventure, the other a bitter modern farce - about two very dif-

As a boy on Taschla Collective Farm, Ivan Khuchevsky knows strange luminous moments when he seems able to perform supernatural feats. Some, like breaking solid furniture, leave concrete evidence. Others, like creating a kindly nurse or a city called Ruibinsk in the middle of the comfields, are, to say the least, more equivocal. In any event, Ivan knows he has a secret destiny. There is a legacy of buried icons waiting for him, and meanwhile a training of iron disci-pline at the brittal hands of the overseer Boris. Unfortunately Boris, who is to tell all on Ivan's 18th birthday, dies two months too soon, in a skating accident for which Ivan believes himself magi-

To find his destiny, Ivan runs away, not once, but again and again, his whole life long. From Taschla he escapes to Ruibinsk, from Ruibinsk to the army, from the army to the West, where he is welcomed into Cambridge. Reuters sends him to Paris; he resigns to run a second-hand bookshop in London. He sets up old people's homes, then advertising agencies. He leads safaris of elderly Americans into the Screngeti, where arm-wrestling skills learned from Boris accidentally win him the chiefdom of a minor tribe. He immediately abdicates to join a think-tank in Chicago. Somewhere along his tortuous way, it becomes apparent that what he is really doing is looking for Sofka, the girl who, while hiding him from the Ruibinsk police, relieved him of his virginity.

another orphan, his story is in strict contrast. Overwhelmed by a doting grandmother and her Polish housekeeper, a lonely refugee called Elfreda, Michael never does anything except become obese. There is one magnificent porby Jonathan Gathorne-Hardy Hutchinson, £14,99

out or for hereditary reasons. He somewhat resembled a new-laid egg or much sucked bonbon. His habit of running his nails down his plump left cheek continued, and now he often ate the little rolled up fragments from under them. He liked the salty taste."

Anal-compulsive to the letter, Michael spends his life collecting newspapers, paperbacks, bus tickets, the cardboard middles of toilet rolls. Floor by floor, he forces his granny to evict her tenants from a house in Drayton Gardens, and uses the increased space to accommodate things he finds in skips: bits of string and bottle tops; towel rails and broken hotplates. He collects his own hair; his own excretions. He catalogues his collections and records the cataloguing in his journals. Then he cat-

alogues the journals.

This is an authentically masculine book. Ivan, the arm-wrestler, the good soldier, the dynamic executive, never runs away from anything in defeat, but always at the peak of success. Michael represents the gloomier side of the gender: self-centred, helplessly dependent, manipulative. Each man is obsessed with the woman whose fortune it will be to sanctify his life, should be ever find her. While Ivan dreams of Sofka, Michael yearns for Elfreda, and searches for her with his own mad methodicality, posting two thousand Roneoed copies of a love letter into the letterboxes of Cambridge. There is never any hope, really, for Ivan or Michael, or for us the readers. What turns out to connect the middle-class British boy and Though Michael Wordingham is the Russian peasant is that both have given their hearts already, irredeemably. Jonathan Gathorne-Hardy is the

author of The Rise and Fall of the British Nanny, and he has put at least eight examples of the genus in these pages. When at the end Ivan and Michael distrait: "Michael at nearly 20 was tall, oval appear from view, we know perfectly in shape and already losing his hair in well where they have gone: back to the front, either because he had pulled it all mursery, like all good boys.



Death's draw: like a Ku Klux Klan roadie, this booded Sicilian waits to carry a drum in one of the bewildering rolligious ituals that, along with marriages processions, field-work and children's games, stud the pages of The falcing of the Sicilians (Devi Lewis), a celebration of the work of Giuseppe Leone, the great Italian lensman. "The photographed," writes Diego Mormorio in a wildly pretentions introduction to this unsentimental portfolio, "always pictures something that has just emerged from the past and is sailing recklesly towards the reefs of the future..."

appetites

Victoria Coren, confronted by a plate of girlie pornography, takes a cautious nibble

Eat Me by Linda Jaivin Chatto & Windus, £9.99

A ccording to a recent feature in the News Of The World – brilliantly titled "Ooh, You Are Author!" – there are "an estimated five million British girls who love a dirty novel." Women's porn, it seems, is the hot new genre. Eat Me is not only girl-for-girl action, it's also Australian, feminist and vaguely (God help us) post-modern. us) post-modern.

This generous helping of sauce for the guose is peppered with strident female academics and vegetarians, who meet in Sydney cafes to discuss their fantasies. Though explicitly sexual, most of these force in some arms of feathers. focus in some way on food - hence the title. Think women and danger, naughtiness and illicit thrills and you end up, unerringly, at the fridge door.

The novel opens with an episode involving a woman and an array of fruit: this is the Marianne Faithfull Mars Bar trick for a health-conscious generation. It sounds rather uncomfortable, if you ask me - particularly the kiwi fruit - but at least she stops short of making out with

a pineapple.

The imagery throughout is all giant leeks and plum puddings; in one section, Jake "peeled off Julia's clothes as if they were the leaves of a steamed artichoke... his gaze rested on the Mediterranean caramel of her belly before proceeding down... to the folds of moist gravlax". A pretty unappetising mixture, if you think about it.

Even when the snacks are left behind, the sex scenes are too metaphorical for simple gratification. Getting it together with a Chinese circus performer, one girl confesses: "I kneel down and swallow the sword of the sword-swallower, charm the snake of the snake-charmer." Lucky for him he wasn't a ringmaster. Another obstacle to erotic success is that the novel is plagued by common sense and humour. Slinking seductively towards a lover, "the smooth soles of [Helen's] new shoes slid on the linoleum and she came in for a rather clumsy landing on his lap. 'Oof.' he cried, despite himself."

Erotica, more than any other genre, demands the suspension of disbelief and here it is undercut by earthy reason. Like most things that come out of Australia this is funny and likeable, but deeply uncrotic. Bathos and realism are the enemies of porn, that realm where fantasy swells unimpeded. There is no room for, if you will forgive me, the deflating prick.

But Jaivin's main problem is that successful porn is inherently nasty, and her attempt to reclaim it for a right-on readership is admirable but doomed. Eat Me's women are very sexually empowered always on top, talking of "engulfment" rather than penetration - no thrills for the unreconstructed girl here. Even the food is all trendy international deli-produce: "Camilla poked the tip of her isumos into her latte and fellated the long pastry". Not so sexy with a saveloy and weak tea, I guess.

Condoms interrupt the flow (yes.yes). peeping Toms pause to point out that "the women I watch are all perfectly safe", and Jaivin gets into terrible ideological confusion with an episode in which a woman hires a black slave but takes pains to stress that "we're enacting a fantasy, with his consent", thus pleasing no-one. As a literary exercise, it's all very interesting but the fact is, you can't be right-on when you jerk off.

Discovering daddy in the deep freeze

Miranda Seymour finds vivid characters and special pleading in a novel of gay parenthood

eaders of Michael Arditti's moving Pagan and her Parents and powerful first novel, The Celi bate, will not be misled by the title of his second into supposing that he has written about a conventional family. What he has done, as he did in that book, is to make a passionate case for the homosexual's right to love and to

The narrator, Leo Young, describes the complicated past relationship he has had with two people, Candida Mulliner and Robin Standish. Robin is handsome. Catholic and confused about his sexuality: Candida, with her admiring undergraduate friend Leo in tow, gravitates towards him out of a longing for the kind of aristocratic, ultra-English background to which she feels she has a right to belong. Leo, the shy son of a woman who runs a boarding-house and who believes in sticking to your own class, is able to view the Standishes with a critical eye and see the ugliness of their small stately home. Candida is intoxicated,

by Michael Arditti Sinclair-Stevenson, £12.99

even when Lady Standish, drawling through lipstick-stained teeth, talks of a drunken husband who raped her, beat her and was finally "dragged from the mud of a drained lake, foetid

in body as in spirit." Influenced by Robin, Candida becomes a rebel; when he becomes engaged to a nice county girl, she turns up at the party to warn the fiancée that she may be in for a nasty attack of herpes. Leo, as always, looks on and is presciently warned by Lady Standish against the danger of loving anybody too much, unless he wants a broken heart.

Pagan's unhappy story begins after

death of Candida. The child's father has never been named, although Candida's promiscuity suggests many possibilities. On her deathbed, Candida entrusts her small daughter to Leo, the man who has helped to bring her up and whom she identifies as a father-figure. The choice seems ideal: Pagan is a devoted six-year-old; Leo is a lonely but successful television chat-show host with a house in Kensington, a cook and infi-

nite patience for Pagan's caprices. The problems, and a sour form of comedy, begin when Candida's adoptive parents, never having seen their grand-daughter, decide that she cannot be entrusted to the care of a homosexual. They take Leo to court; the newspapers dig out every unlikely and plausible detail they can find to tarnish his reputation; his career is ruined and Pagan is carried off by the ghastly grandparents to be transart of self-sacrifice. (One nice and

refusal to let her eat one of the jam tarts she is permitted to help bake for members of the St John's Ambulance Brigade.) Fortunately, the story does not end there.

manipulation of the way a narrative unfolds. In The Celibate, he played with different voices to heighten the suspense; here, his decision to have Leo address himself to the dead Candida allows the reader to question Leo's fascination with a character we are never allowed to meet. A whimsical blend of Zuleika Dobson, Sally Bowles and Becky Sharp, fearless and dreadful in her ability to enjoy herself at the expense of other people, Candida is a more memorable creation

than poor, decent Leo. He is almost too good to be true he has to be for Arditti's purposes. while Candida is mad and bad enough formed into Patience and taught the to send Cruella De Vil running for cover. I was unsure whether I was

when, having dreamed that she is the secret daughter of an Earl and a beautiful housemaid, she learns that her mother was a telephonist and her father a meat packer. "You mean in Arditti is unusually deft in his an abattoir?" Leo asks, trying to make things seem a little more exciting. "No." she answers, in his recollection, "there's not even any blood in it. He worked in a deep freeze."

Suspense, as with The Celibate, is maintained until the end, when we are deluged with as many startling disclosures as in the last pages of a good Wilkie Collins. Few, it must be said, seem wholly plausible. I don't wish to give them away, but it troubled me that Mr Arditti's determination to make Leo a stain-free hero and ideal fatherfigure has resulted in some over-zealous blackening of other characters. He makes sure that the case for homosexual parenthood is not only validated but triumphant. I am not convinced that he has chosen the best the slow and unflinchingly described telling detail is the grandmother's meant to smile as unkindly as I did fictional way to win the argument.

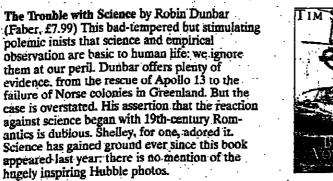


Reviewed by Emma Hagestadt and Christopher Hirst



NATERAL HISTORY OF THE SENSES Diane Ackerman

A Natural History of the Senses by Diane Ackerman (Phoenix, £7.99) A big bestseller in the States; Diane Ackerman (poet, essayist and naturalist) celebrates the five senses and the "sense-luscious" world we live in with the passion of a Roman voluptuary. It's the kind of book that you can dip into at random and experience a quick sensory frisson each time: delights include Helen Keller on the "elemental" whiff of young men, the importance of the crunch factor in crisps, and why perfumes smell strongest just before a storm. Ackerman's own personal nirvana is wallowing in a vanilla-scented bath while sipping a vanilla cream seltzer.





(Papermac, £10) In this rich and fascinating work, Malcolm performs a prodigious feat in untangling areane detail and debunking myth. The Serbs and the Croats were Slave tribes who arrived in the seventh century, but the basis of their animosity is economic (Christian peasants resenting Muslim landlords) rather than ethnic. In fact, for much of the period since 1878, the two peoples lived peacefully together. In a new epilogue taking the story to the end of 1995, Malcolm says that ethnic separation will ensure a "much more troubled future".

Bosnia: A Short History by Noel Malcolm



The Brendan Voyage by Tim Sevrin (Abacus, £8.99) The idea that the Irish made it to America 400 years before the Vikings is a thrilling one. Putting his faith in the Navigatio, a medieval text which describes St Brendan's voyage to the Promised Land, explorer Tim Sevrin and four friends reconstructed the saint's tiny ox-hide boat and put the myth to the test. Sevrin's account of their terrifying journey across North Atlantic is unemotionally told, but the power of his story is undeniable. The book includes the text of the Navigatio and extensive design notes on the boat's construction. A real boy's own adventure.

Audiobooks



You Magazine Short Story read by Janet McTeer and Bill Nighy

Snow Falling on Cedars read by Peter Marinker

Thirteen pointed and witty tales by such top novelists as Muriel Spark. Lisa St Aubin, Angela Huth, Ben Okri, Alan Sillitoe and Victoria Glendinning make up the You Magazine Short Story Collection (CSA Telltapes, £7.99). The outstanding bloom in a classy bunch is Jane Gardam's "the Boy Who

of David Guterson's Snow Falling on Cedars (Sterling, 15 hours, £17.99, mail order

Turned into a Bike". This unabridged reading only from Freephone 0800

up, but gets more and more compelling as the murder of a Japanese fisherman proves to raise extraordinary moral issues for the little Puget Sound community.

136919) has a slow build-

Peter Marinker copes effortlessly with American. Japanese and Scandinavian accentss, and he has a suppressed excitement in his voice which keeps the listener closely engaged with the story

Christina Hardyment,



Further Details 01403 771511

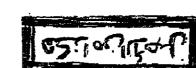
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Is it really necessary to destroy this garden?

There are plans to build eight executive-style homes in the perfectly preserved grounds of Downe Hall in Dorset. Anna Pavord is appalled

ply but if there is one cruising n the vicinity of Bridport. Dorset, would be please go post-haste to Downe Hall, an 18th-century mansion sitting on the side of Coneygar Hill, and make an offer for the place. Its owner wants to get rid of it, although it has never appeared in the pages of Country Life or indeed anywhere else on the open

Now this is not some troublesome wreck surrounded by an industrial estate. It is an elegant house, not impossibly large, and sits in the middle of gardens and woodlands so extensive you can scarcely believe that within a couple of hundred yards is Bridport's main street, another treat of 18th-cen-

Even more surprising. Downe Hall with its 14 acres of garden and surrounding acres of pasture and woodland has staggered through the infilling mania of the last 50 years to survive virtually intact in its design and layout since William Downe first moved here to take the sea air in 1789. The perimeter walk, a great feature of villa gardens of the period, is still protected with Portugal laurel, box and yew. There are some magnificent trees, including two enormous plane trees, rare in these parts. Some of the beech and lime date from the time the grounds were laid out in the late 18th century.

From the terrace along the south front of the house, you still get what a sales notice of 1837 described as a "bold and extensive view of the vast ocean", framed between folding cliffs. The terrace itself is the work of Edward Prior, an Arts and Crafts architect and pupil of Norman Shaw. It has great period charm, with wisteria coiling around the retaining walls and wide. semicircular flights of steps connecting the different paved levels.

Rooks still clatter about in the trees here and a pungent whiff of badger hangs in the air. Against all the odds, this house and its setting exist in a serene, untouched bubble. But at the end of this month, barring some "new

nights in shining armour are always in wretchedly short supconverting the house itself into five bury, the Prince of Wales' new-build project on the outskirts of Dorchester, Dorset's county town) is acting as agent for Downe Hall's owner, Mrs Morse-Letheren. He has persuaded local planners that this is the way to ensure a future for the house, listed

Mr Fry's special relationship with the local planning authorities, made clear when I talked to Des Derrien, Direcvices at the West Dorset District Council, was built up in the wake of his successful development in the Dorset village of Abbotsbury. If development has to take place, the Council feels he is likely to make a better job of it than anyone else in the locality.

Does development have to take place? This is one of the questions that has been asked from the beginning by Bridport resident Catherine Searle. who has fought harder than anyone to find ways of preserving the entity of Downe Hall. Could not the council delay giving planning permission until the property had at least been tested on the open market? Mr Derrien voiced fears about "unscrupulous developers" getting their hands on the place, but there are laws to prevent unsuitable development. His department can enforce them.

Could not the council seek an independent assessment of the economics of the site? "Enabling development" is sometimes granted to generate the finance necessary for a charitable trust to preserve a listed building, but as Anthony Jaggard, chairman of the Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society has pointed out, this is not such a case. It is, as he said, "a speculative investment" not unnaturally geared to maximise the greatest possible return. But is it strictly necessary to build as many as eight houses to provide the funds to convert the house into five flats, which can themselves be sold material consideration", West Dorset at a profit? It is not too late once again District Council will vote on whether to ask the question: is a housing devel-



opment on the scale envisaged at Downe Hall the best possible way of ensuring its future?

The Georgian Group thinks not. The Victorian Society thinks not. The Garden History Society most emphatically thinks not. David Lambert, case officer for the Society says Downe Hall is "the saddest case" that has come his way over the past year. "The structure is so little changed from the time it was laid out", he explained. "The perimeter belt is mature and unbreached by modern development. The late 18thcentury trees in the park give it a very special character. The perimeter walk is intact and the house itself amazingly unspoilt by 20th-century additions."

When you look at the plans, it is

immediately obvious that the greatest harm to the setting is caused by the four houses proposed for the foreground of Downe Hall, two on either side of the presently unbroken sweep of grass and trees. If these could be done away with, then the house and garden would be very much less jeopardised than they would be under the present plans. There is a pretty lodge house which has been empty for the last 17 years and a stable yard built by Prior that could be converted instead, if the need for housing in Bridport is thought to be so great (the local paper, the Bridgon News advertises a selection of 48 houses already for sale in the

quite as financially rewarding for the property's owner and agent.

At the meeting, now very soon, that finally seals Downe Hall's fate, members of West Dorset District Council's planning committee may like to remind themselves that it was they who first identified the special importance of Downe Hall, whose wooded grounds lick like a tongue down into the centre of Bridport. In this town, which already has special planning status as a conservation area in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, they decided that the Downe Hall site merited another girdle of protection as land of town). This is a compromise - the local landscape importance. Under Downe Hall bubble would still be Policy L4 of the local structure plan,

broken - but it is a realistic one, if not this stipulates that "development proposals which would harm specific features and qualities of local importance will not be permitted."

Do the 40 trees that must be felled to accommodate eight houses count as: specific features? Does it matter that a double garage has been positioned astride the presently unbroken perimeter walk? Or that the massive yew hedge and topiary to the northwest of the house will be buried under another garage block? In short, have we learnt nothing from the mistakes of the last 50 years? Time is running out for Downe Hall, but with strength and vision on the part of the planning authorities. it could still emerge as a building saved without a garden lost.

How to get ahead with cherry blossom

Anna McKane offers a guide to spring flowers

first in the street with the one. Prunus subhinella through the winter. the barbecue will need to in November and continues choose carefully from hun- on and off until March. dreds of flowering cherries to be first with the blossom. To

grasscutting and first with Autumnalis comes into flower

This little tree has fine. be certain to beat the crowd. buds. It will produce as many. As a compensation for smaller tuary, is probably the earliest.

But trees brave enough to flower in the cold do not produce the huge show we expect from blousey double Japanese twiggy branches covered in cherries such as the Kanzan. burst around the end of Feb-

nardeners who like to be the winter flowering cherry is as three flowering spurts blooms, the early flowerers have a longer season.

Prunus incisa is in flower in some areas now. The whiteflowered P incisa praecox. which flowers in a month-long

with a big show. It has the advantage of being small, almost shrublike, though given time it will become a small tree.

Next to flower are the ornamental almonds, forms of Prunus dulcis, whose flowers appear all along the branches, making them look like a Japanese painting. The most common are single, with deep pink stamens, giving the flowers a darker eye. Prunus Kursar flowers at the same time, with double deep pink blos-

Next to flower are ornamental peaches, types of Prunus persica, which are like almonds in style although the flowers are generally smaller. By late March many of the cherries will be getting into

their stride, starting with the magnificent Prunus Accolade, with its large, rich pink flowers. These generally appear with the main show of daffodils. Prunus Pandora is another lovely one, with powder pink flowers.

Having chosen an early flowerer, the next consideration is a background for the blossom. With later flowering trees this may not be a problem, as by late April other trees will be coming into leaf. The best background for blossom is a blue sky, so it is worth trying to site the tree where it will be seen from below, from a path or ground floor window. The least effective background is one of bare twigs on other trees, as the blossom is lost in a muddle of branches. A stuccoed house wall makes a better backdrop, or evergreen trees or, perhaps the ideal, the middle of a lawn.

There are shows of blossom at Kew, and at the Hillier Arboretum, near Romsey, Hampshire. But one of the best is at Telford, Shropshire, where a Japanese-owned firm, Maxell. started a Prunus collection by giving the town 1,000 flowering cherries. Chris Jones, who looks after the collection, says the best display will be in mid-April.

WEEKEND WORK

t has been snowing here again, and sensibly few of the roses are yet showing gentler treatment. Remove to set out later in the season. signs of breaking into growth. Established hybrid tea roses can still be pruned, if you haven't already. The quick, modern way is to shear them over with a hedge cutter. The old way is to proceed in careful stages. Cut back any wood that is dead or diseased, making the cut just above a plump, healthy bud. Take out any shoots growing in towards the centre of the bush. Shorten the strongest

remaining branches by

about half, but be more sav-

age with the spindly

growths, taking them back

all dead and diseased wood, I have just sown seed of a ing growth by about a third.

the sprouting. When new and grow them on at a temperature of around 50F. Continue to sow seeds of a warmer place.

then cut back all the remain- perennial aquilegia called Double Pleat (Thompson & Tuberous begonias that Morgan £1.89) with frilly have hibernated through the double flowers of purple and winter need prodding into white. Ideally seed should be action now. Tip them from sown fresh in late summer, their pots, clean off old but this does not suit seed stems and then settle them companies. Germination is into a tray of moist compost better if you put the seed, to sprout again, concave sown in a pot of compost and side uppermost. A heated covered with clingfilm, into propagator will speed up the fridge for a couple of weeks, before bringing it out leaves have appeared, plant in the warm. If the seed the tubers in separate pots sprouts while it is still in the fridge, bring the pot out and let the seedlings grow on in

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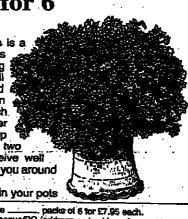
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property country houses

More than a lick of paint and a new loo

Amanda Seidl on folk who do up country houses

country houses should be soaring. But not many people can afford to buy, let alone maintain, houses the size of Pemberley or Rosings Park in Pride and Prejudice. Enter the developers who are making it possible for those who don't have a fortune to enjoy the style and splendour of a great house - provided they are willing to share it.

You couldn't get more stylish than the spectacular 17th-century Burley on the Hill near Oakham in Rutland. With sweeping views of Rutland Water and 400 acres of parkland, Burley is one of the finest country houses in England, but like so many of its peers, it had fallen into disrepair. Briefly the home of Cypriot tycoon Asil Nadir, Burley was bought three years ago by the acknowledged doyen of country house restoration, Kit Martin, who has restored and developed it.

Despite the isolated location and prices of between £295,000 and £495,000 for the main house apartments, all 22 units have been sold even though work is not yet complete. Apart from the house's stunning situation, the popularity of the development is due to Martin's sympathetic conversion, which created elegant and spacious houses in the main wings of the mansion and cottages with gardens in the service buildings. He even returned deer to the deer park.

"It is a tremendous privilege to live in a house like this," says Tony Attwood, who bought Church Wing last year. "Instead of paying for a large garden and stables we don't use, we have put all our money and the living rooms for the main apartinto this unique house and have the use of a 400-acre estate as our back garden."

s Jane Austin fever continues to sweep the nation, it is perhaps pre-dictable that sales of Georgian almost alone in taking on great country houses for conversion. Burley was his 10th project and he is already working on his project and he is already working on his fourth Scottish conversion - the 150-acre Formakin estate near Glasgow, designed by Robert Lorimer in the 1900s but never completed. Prices start at £125,000 for the two-bedroom Byre House.

Converting country mansions is increasing due to the number of suitable premises coming on the market. Many great houses were converted to institutional use during and after the Second World War, and during the Eighties, many more were turned into offices or training centres. But the recession has reduced demand for both offices and training establishments, while the rationalisation of the Health Service has made many isolated hospitals redundant,

At the same time, the public's appetite for gracious living has been assisted by a general dissatisfaction with the standard and uniformity of new houses. "In the late Eighties, I noticed that while nobody seemed to have any money for new bouses, there was always plenty of demand for historic properties," says Andrew Murphy of Legion Homes. Mr Murphy's observation led him to buy Wormleybury in Hertfordshire, a Grade I-listed Georgian manor house that could have been the model for Mr Bingley's Netherfield Hall in Pride & Prejudice.

Set in 40 acres of parkland complete with lake, ancient trees and yew walk, Wormleybury provides the space and views lost long ago to most properties in the crowded M25 commuter belt. The principal rooms, designed by Robert Adam, form the communal entrance hall ment. Light floods through the sash windows illuminating the carefully restored During the recession, Mr Martin was stucco designs in the Eating Room which



comes fully decorated - including original paintings by Angelica Kauffmann.

Incorporating the conveniences of modern living into historic houses is not easy, and compromises have to be made. Mr Murphy has tried to keep the ground and first-floor living rooms intact while sacrificing the lower and upper floors for bedrooms with en suite bathrooms. The apartments are duplex, which has meant fitting in extra staircases and lobbies, something frowned upon by the Georgian Group.

'It is important to work with the grain of the house," says Neil Burton of the Georgian Group, which advises the Government and councils on all aspects relating to Georgian buildings. But because most great houses have at least four storeys, vertical conversion creates apartments with a daunting number of stairs.

The stairs at Wormleybury have not deterred many prospective buyers, although one octogenarian was puffing a

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little on the third ascent, admits Murphy. All but three of the apartments are sold or under offer to a mix of buyers - from a young couple expecting their first child to an expatriate banker.

The funny thing is that many of the people attracted to country-house conversions are the sort of people who, two centuries ago, would have lived in a big house," says Mr Burton.

While Mr Murphy has spent more than £1 million restoring the house and converting the interior into nine apartments, the previous owners have built themselves a house in the former orangery and are converting the courtyard to mewsstyle houses. Five new houses have also been built and sold in the paddock beyond the gardener's cottage so that Wormleybury will soon support a cosy hamlet around St Lawrence's Church. From the builder's point of view, it

makes sense to put in as many units as

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Things are looking up, according to the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, who report sustained improvement in the housing market in the first three months of the year. This contrasts favourably with the depressing autumn report last year which said there was little sign of an upturn in the housing market. Falling interest rates and competitive mortgages are two of the reasons for the improved activity.

Yet better sales do not mean better prices. Quality period properties are showing the best increases but agents warn against unrealistic pricing. Mark Everett of Michael Everett & Co in Surrey voices the general opinion: "Overpriced property is sticking badly. Accurate pricing is vital.

A widespread shortage of good houses on the market. particularly in the South East and South West, is also affecting prices. Devon and Dorset have enjoyed a record first quarter.

Agents remain cautious about another false dawn and will be watching the Budget for anything that might damage the fragile market. "Don't get too excited." warns Tony Gray of Fraser Wood in the West Midlands. "It's not so much a feel good' factor but rather an 'I don't feel too bad factor".

Who's moving

Nummer has become Synonymous with Sarah Ferguson, who was brought up in the Hampshire village. The Cottage which belonged to the Duchess' grandmother is up for sale. A pretty thatched, fourbedroom, three-reception room house, it has recently been rewired, rethatched and redecorated and sold through John D Wood (01962 86131) for

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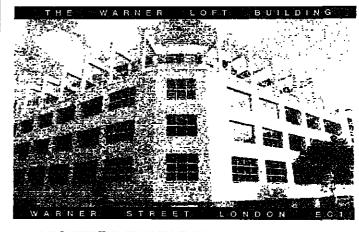
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house, there are benefits, too: mainte-

nance costs can be spread more thinly.

The Georgian Group is not enthusias-tic about additional houses in the grounds

of listed houses. "We are much happier

about the conversion of houses to multi-

ple occupancy than conversion to an insti-

tutional use, because it is a fairly low-inten-

sity use," explains Mr Burton. "But we are

against enabling development on the

whole because it is almost impossible to

build new houses in the grounds without

compromising the character of the origi-

by conservationists. Mr Murphy is look-

ing for another country house to convert.

office on a housing site," he says.

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Take two travellers, give them two hundred pounds, and

You have cash, a few clothes and a passport. How far can you get, and how good a time can you have, in 48 hours? We set two Independent writers the task of finding out, each seeking to outdo the other and set a new trend for instant travel.

The rules: Claire Gervat and Simon Calder were each allowed £200. They started out at dawn on Saturday morning, from Victoria station in central London, aiming to get as far as possible and back in 48 hours. The money had to cover everything: transport, food and drink, accommodation, and entertainment. Both decided that the best bet for an instant cut-price getaway lay at Gatwick, but their paths diverged even before leaving Victoria...

The Ticket

I once carried my passport around with me for a year because I was so enthralled by the idea of being able to take off at a moment's notice. When it came to it, the reality was slightly less romantic, at least at first. Dawn on Victoria Station after a late night is not the time to go running around saving a pound here or there. I leapt on a Gatwick Express (£8.90), which was just leaving and

arrived at Gatwick at 7am.

I had only light hand luggage and what I was wearing (jeans, plus T-shirt under shirt-jacket under padded jacket) seemed likely to adapt to most places. I was likely to go. I couldn't go too far, otherwise I'd spend the whole weekend on a plane, and I couldn't go anywhere that demanded visas. It seemed likely that I'd end up somewhere in Europe, though I hoped it might be some-where like Istanbul or Funchal in Madeira - at the very least somewhere warmer than London.

In the end I had to limit my ideas. My first stop at Gatwick was the Thomas Cook stand, where I sat going through the list of possible destinations. Charter flights were more or less out, as I had to be back for work on Monday; but the scheduled fare to both Funchal and Istanbul was more than £300. Other destinations were too expensive or too full. If I'd gone to Heathrow, I could have flown to Lisbon for £111, but I wouldn't have arrived until the evening. However, at Gatwick I struck gold – Madrid for £101, including tax. A quick visit to Flightbookers yielded nothing better, so back I went to buy my ticket.

The flight was at 8.45am, so I had just enough time to grab a can of Coke (45p) to stave off hunger before boarding. The heaviest thing I was carrying was the Rough Guide to Europe, which I already owned; but there are several shops at the airport where you can buy a guidebook to wherever you end up going.

The Holiday

At the airport in Madrid I changed £80 and got 14.354 pesetas (one peseta more to the pound than in Gatwick).

The airport bus to the centre of town took less than 20 minutes, so I was soon walking along Calle de Fuencarral, just off Gran Via, which the guidehook said was a good place for cheap hotels. At the fourth attempt I found a single room for £16 in the two-star Hostal Medieval (whose fixtures, thankfully, were modern), a family-run place in the heart of the Malasaña district. The owner took me off for a strong coffee in the next-door café and issued stern warnings about pickpockets, especially in the Rastro flea-market every Sunday

morning.

In the end I didn't go there, because so much else appealed. I went to the Prado to look at the Goyas, El Grecos, Velasquezes and Boschs: I visited the Reina Solia Art Centre, which houses Spain's main modern art collection. I wandered round the Botanical Gardens to see the first of the spring flowers. I went for long walks in the Retiro, a huge park to the east of central Madrid; on Sunday especially, the sun shone and the Madrileños were out in droves, listening to buskers and sitting in open-air cases in the park. I also spent plenty of time sitting in cases, lapping up the sunshine and watching the world go by, with a glass of something and a tapa or two.

The Return

I had enough money left over for a taxi to the airport (2,500ptas), which is just as well as I didn't have the energy to do anything else after all that walking. The flight was on time, so I was back at Gatwick by 10pm on Sunday. I had £10 left; fatigue and self-indulgence won out over frugality, so I caught the Gatwick Express back to town. It had been a perfect weekend: fine art. sunshine and café society. Only one problem: it did make Monday morning that little bit grimmer.

Vhere the money went: Train from Victoria to Gatwick: £8.90. Flight to Madrid and back: £101. Can of Coke at Gatwick: 45p. Purchase of 14,354 pesetas: £80. Train from Gatwick to Victoria: £8.90. Total: £199.25.

Claire Gervat

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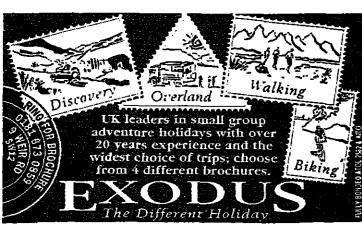
Sunday in the Retiro park, Madrid, and the entertainers are out in force

Photograph: Claire Gervat

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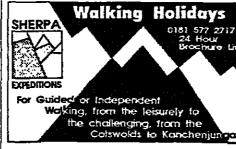
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inds, and see how far they can go

The Ticket

The Gatwick Express costs £8.90 one-way. But you can save £1.50 by buying a ticket to Crawley on an ordinary train, and jump off when it stops at Gatwick airport small stuff, but every little helps when you have no idea where you are going. And this buys a day return, just in case I was obliged to come back to London. Nothing, whether a trip on Eurostar from Waterloo or a flight from Heathrow or

Stansted, was ruled out, . Gatwick is the obvious choice for a jaunt like this, because of its mix of charters and scheduled flights and the proximity to the Newhaven and Isle of Wight ferries just in case all the planes are full. I hoped I would find a return flight for around £100, leaving plenty for incidentals.

Dawn on a foggy day at Gatwick presents a screenful of temptations: departures to Catania, San Juan and Tallinn flicker alluringly on the TV monitors. First, though, you need a ticket. I went straight to the travel agency on the station concourse, called Flightbookers. In response to a request for a cheap flight, I was politely referred elsewhere on the grounds that the company specialised in long-haul travel. Leaving the office, I was a bemused to read a board advertising short-haul flights to Paris, Amsterdam and Frankfurt for around £100.

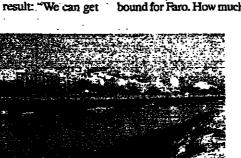
Health risks presented obstacles to truly global gallivanting. Places like Cairo or Goa were ruled out because of the impossibility of taking all the necessary health precautions.

Self-preservation apart, no preconceptions were permitted about where I might end up, but the prospect of a destination rather warmer than Stockholm or Moscow appealed. This implied a charter flight to the Mediterranean. The problem with charters as far as the instant traveller is

- concerned is that they are intended for holiday-makers who plan in advance. Although the charter operators have staff at the airport, most will decline to sell you a ticket. But the crafty traveller in search of a bargain will head for room 1226 of the Hilton Hotel.

This improbable residence is the Gatwick home of Avro, one of Britain's leading seat-only specialists. Working on the principle that no commodity is more perishable than an aircraft seat, the company is happy to sell space on imminent departures. At about the position where a trouser press would be in an ordinary hotel room sits a huge board on which all the day's flights are chalked. An instant result: "We can get Skybreak. Putting my go-anywhere cash on the table, I was offered a return flight for £129 to Faro. The fickle finger of flying fate was pointing firmly at Portugal. I munched through a £3

breakfast at Spudulike, then mulled over the alternatives as I meandered through the airport. Not all the options were alluring. A train was just about to depart for Glasgow, costing £68 return and scheduled to take nearly 10 hours. British Airways' destinations were tempting: Miami, New York, Nairobi, all closer in terms of time than Glasgow, but beyond my budget. So I checked out the chances of check-in for a cheaper short-baul flight. Claire's plane to Madrid had flown, but another was bound for Faro. How much?



Paradise on the Algarya

you to Faro at 1pm for £49." But this was a one-way fare, with no guaranteed space for the return flight at the same fare. The Avro representative suggested he give me the name of its agent in the southern Portuguese town. The staff there would be able to offer me something, "but it may not be until Tuesday."

I elected to try to arrange a more certain journey. Thomas Cook has an agency in the arrivals hall of Gatwick's south terminal, selling hotel rooms in London to inbound passengers. But for people after a quick getaway in the opposite direction, the staff can check late availability with another seat-only company,

"We have a World Offer of £129.50 including tax". So for an extra 50 pence on the charter fare on offer, I could have more legroom.

Drink a beer on the flight

(free on BA, £1.50 on Air 2000), and the sums shift in fayour of scheduled. I paid. The flight, like many others that morning, was delayed by fog. This meant hunch (a £3 picnic from the Whistlestop supermarket). which was nearly to tip me over the edge. I should have changed money first. Asking around at all the bureaux de change, the best

deal was from Travelex. I had planned to change £50. But the prospect of 11,000 crisp Portuguese escudos for £50.85 proved too tempting. I would tackle the problem of getting back to London with only £6.75 later. While mists and the backlog of flights cleared, I stood in Waterstone's trying to memorise the Cadogan Guide to the Algarve.

The Holiday

The pension that the lady at Faro tourist office recommended had twice as many stars (two) as I could afford. So I ended up at the Residencia Madelena instead, where a room with no view costs £11 a might. And to muddy the waters a little about just how far I actually got, I took the coastal train to Lagos. Technically, this is the delightful resort at the west of the Algarve rather than the former capital of Nigeria, but at least I could get a picture taken in front of the sign saying LAGOS.

Three more substantial rewards repaid any amount of aggravation, and would justify £200 of anyone's

The world's finest colection of sponge cakes is exhibited each Sunday morning in the porch of the church in the centre of Portimão, a fishing port astride a broad estuary. Sweet, syrupy and sticky cakes are sold in aid of church funds, at prices that even travellers counting their escudos will find tempting. Who needs lunch when you have an industrial-sized wedge of sponge in your backpack?

Another church prorided the cultural highlight. Saô Antonio, in Lagos, is a Baroque implosion of gilded woodwork, heavy with cherubs and trompesl'œil, that looks as if it has floated in from Florence.

By supper time, the effects of the cake overdose had worn off sufficiently for a meal as fine as it was filling. On any ordinary holiday, the Vilaça restaurant tucked into a doddery old backstreet in Faro - would be just the sort of honest, local haunt where you don't know what a meal will cost and neither do you care. I asked for the special, but not for its price, and sweated.

The grilled swordfish tasted as if it had leapt straight from the Atlantic into the fire. The intense flavours of the accompanying salad spoke of a land where winter had never really happened, and were attenuated by a glass of coarse and cheerful (and, I hoped, cheap) wine. I was relieved to find that this feast cost just £6, so I would avoid washing-up duty that night. I tipped generously and happily - and vowed to return in a less anxious state.

The Return

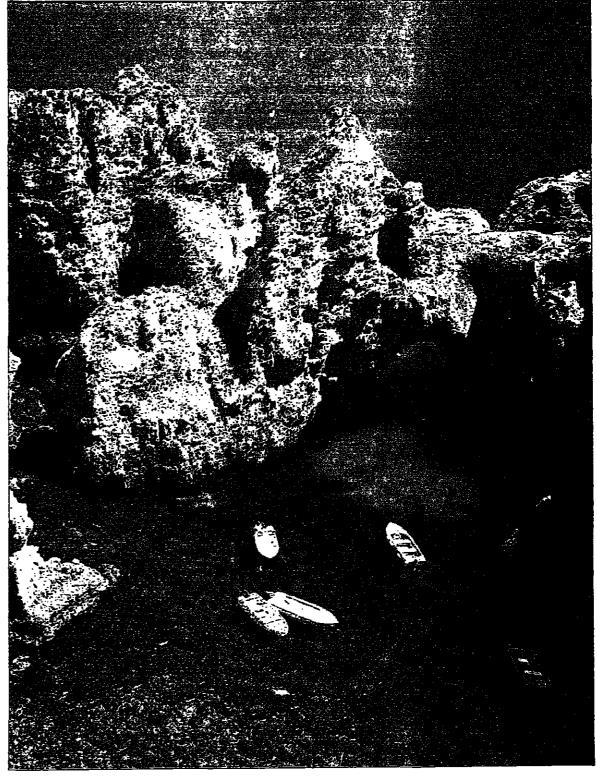
The good thing about scheduled flights is that they are frequent. The bad thing about my ticket was that it said "no change of reservation". The kindness of the check-in agent at Faro airport meant she allowed me on an earlier flight without fuss. Perhaps she felt sorry for someone who looked out of fortune.

Back at Gatwick, my travels took a surreal turn. If you walk out of the north terminal, just past the Shell garage you hit a long-distance footpath. Join the Sussex Borders Path (as it is called) as it skirts the Fuel Farm and heads off towards the Ramada Hotel. After a half-hour hike, vou are at Horley station. From here, a mile up the line from Gatwick, the train fare falls to £6. I made it back to Victoria with 25p and tired feet.

Baroque churches, cakes and the Sussex Borders Path in a single weekend – it's amazing what £200 can buy. Where the money went:

Train from Victoria to Gatwick: £7.40. Return flight to Faro: £129.50 (of which 10 per cent was tax). Food and drink at Gatwick: £5. Purchase of 11,000 escudos: £50.85. Train from Horley to Victoria: £6. Total: £199.75.

Simon Calder



Fishing boats in view from the cliffs around Lagos

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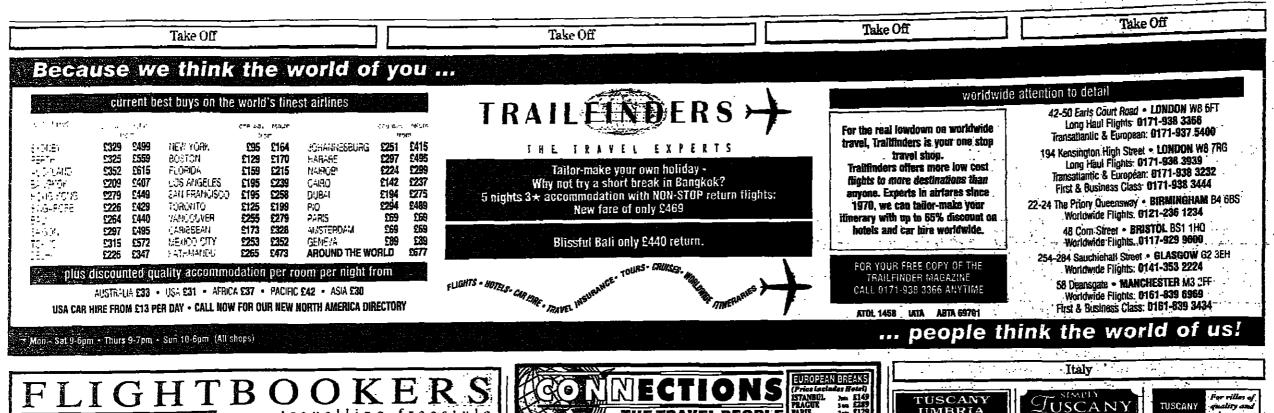
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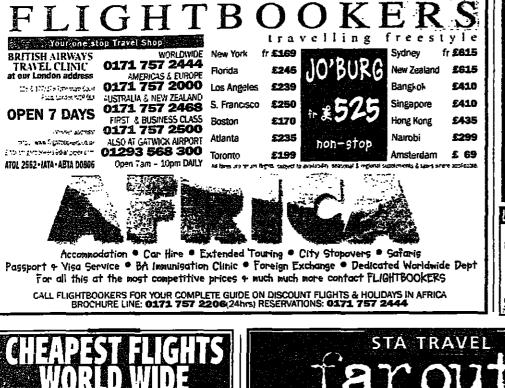
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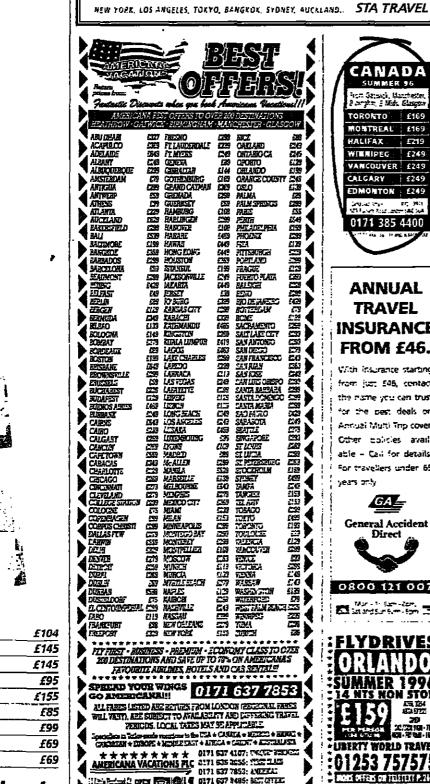
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ME OPERATOR

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s up by Chris Gill

but someone has to do it

Sue Wheat meets three people who make a living by, and for, skiing

hey think it's all over, or at least it soon will be. Though company now takes 90,000 people the prospects for Easter look good, most northern hemisphere skiers are awaiting the thaw and a long, warm wait until next season. Yet for some people a week a year is just not enough. They make a living by, and for, skiing.

THE INSTRUCTOR



Diane went out to San Carlos de Bariloche in southern Argentina as a nurse, doing night shifts so she could ski by day. But the pull of the mountains was too much and she exchanged tending those who had injured themselves skiing to trying to prevent them from having to go to hospital at all - by becoming a ski instructor. "I did a local guides course to learn about the area, and when I got fed up with nursing, someone suggested I use my guiding skills as a ski instructor. So I spent a season teaching South American kids aged between two and nine how. to handle having sliding feet."

"It's hard work, but great fun. The first class is at 9am and you usually have six or seven people. In the busy season, you probably have half an hour for lunch and go back to teaching again until about 4.30pm. In the evening, you join other instructors or skiers you've met. It's really sociable, but you have to remember you're a professional, too - you can't go too mad or you'd never be able to get on the slopes in the morning."

For enthusiasts who can't bear the thought of packing their skis away for summer, South America is the ideal place as the season starts just after Europe's ends. "A lot of ski teams from the northern hemisphere train here, but it's less well known for Europeans, many of whom want a summer holiday in the summer. The all-round good egg, you might be atmosphere is different - Latin counting the days until the season Americans definitely have more ends. But Bridget Collver doesn't

THE OPERATOR Debbie Marshall

four run to the slopes could start in Surbiton, the home of Crystal Holidays - where every day is focused, snowflake sharp, winter Debbie Marshall started working with Crystal Holidays seven years ago, when the company just had one chalet in France. Now she is programme meant being up at 6.30am with the director for France - Crystal five other chalet girls I lived with Lewis, Kaipesh Lathigro

skiing a year to France, Austria, North America and Italy.

"Each winter season starts as soon as the previous season ends," explains Debbie. "After the winter, we start recruiting for the next season and hire about 300 staff as reps, resort managers, chalet girls, chefs, nannies, maintenance people and head office staff. Almost all staff recruited are British but they need to speak French, ski proficiently and have the right kind of personality for the job you could say they're our ambassadors." "The contracting programme

starts in December until the end of the season, contracting chalets, apartments and hotels; at the same time, we start brochure production. Our first brochure will be out in two weeks, and there are two more editions through the year. Before the season starts, there is a massive training course for everyone we've recruited, then the first arrivals come in the first week of December. We have a few quiet weeks, then Christmas and New Year, which are enormous."

Courchevel is proving the most popular French resort, followed by Meribel and La Plagne, and the nuclear tests in the Pacific don't seem to have prompted clients to give France a miss. "The main problem seems to be the franc at the moment, rather than the



nuclear testing," explains Debbie, but people who really love good

THE CHALET GIRL **Bridget Collyer**

If you spent the winter cooking. cleaning, mothering in a surrogate fashion and being an regret being any of those things. She was recruited by Bladon

Lines to work in Verbier, an upmarket and lively resort in Switzerland. "Basically, I was hostessing a week-long house party every week. It's a really about making endless home-made special week for everyone - it's cookies drinking unlimited free alcotheir holiday, they've saved up for it, they love skiing and they probably want to party as well."- and meeting hundreds of people her so it has to be good

"A day in my life as a chalet girl



and walking to the chalet via the

bread shop. Then I'd cook breakfast, make the packed lunches while everyone was eating and bake

a cake or biscuits for afternoon tea.

After that, I'd wave them off on

their day's skiing, making sure no

one had forgotten their ski pass,

and tidy the chalet. I'd go skiing

from about 11.30am until 4pm and then go back to give them afternoon

tea, and prepare the evening meal -

which had to be good. Then I'd go

back to my apartment for a while, and later back to the chalet to cook

and serve the three-course dinner.

It was a party every evening - every

chalet had unlimited wine included

hol, skiing five hours a day, one of the

most beautiful resorts in the world

own age? "No" says Bridget. "I loved

it - it was the best job I've ever had."

Photographs: Colin McKillop, Geraint

The few who go are everyone." How right he is.

mostly attracted by an out-

Was there nothing she didn't like

in the price."

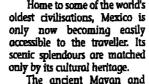
Snow report

What a wonderful thing is Validude. Throughout this mild and quite sunny week (as in the previous week). altitude has been the key to good skiing conditions -wherever in the Alps you mattered, of course; found pretty well exclusively on north-facing slopes, and the anty resort-level runs worth risking your skis on mountains or trees. There was some snow early in the week in most French and Italian resorts, and in some Swiss ones, but not it impact on conditions: to find good skiing this week, you had to find slopes stil! lasting well As I write, on Friday maming, there is wet snov falling here in Klosters, but the forecast doesn't encourage hopes for the decent dump of snow that would be very welcome in most parts of the Alps as Easter approaches. The Pyrenees continue to offer Europe's best all-round deaths and rather lower temperatures than in the Alps. Meanwhile, winter sti rules in north America: Colorado and Utah resorts offer low temperatures and good conditions after and more fresh snow was expected this weekend in both the east and west of the Continent - giving a welcome boost to Whistler/Blackcomb, in particular, and to the New

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office in the smart base station of Andermatt's new cable-car as director of the lift company. The new cable-car up the Gemsstock has twice the capacity of the old one, and runs faster; even so, it is no monster, and morning queues are still common, especially when buses arrive from Lucerne and Zurich. Are further "improvements" in store? Absolutely not, says Clapasson: "What we have is more, it was the only one special, and we must not with snow on the streets. spoil it by opening it up to

fit that encapsulates the stock is that it is a big. appeal of Andermatt steep mountain on which Alpine Adventures/Mounthose who can handle it tain Reality, an amalgam of have plenty of room to explore their limits. Practically all the marked runs under the direction of the are now marked black. founder of one of them. including all three main Alex Clapasson, AA/MR runs from the 2963m top operates in various Swiss station. The two in the main resorts, but Andermatt is north-facing bowl are not fearsomely steep, but offer moguls amid rugged terrain; below mid-mountain are another 700m of black skiing, again mostly moguls. But that's only the beginning as far as Clapasson's guests are concerned. Within the bowl is huge amounts of steep off-piste skiing; outside it, three or

home base, and Clapasson has recently tightened his grip on the resort's operaabout 800m vertical of tions. This tall, lean mounns ni zik won nam nikt four adventurous routes in different directions. And the place gets snow. In the course of my recent Swiss tour, I visited eight resorts, and only one had something resembling powder snow - Andermatt. What's That's what I call special.

Snow's up by Chris Gill

Andermatt, that wonderful backwater

the same themes, it's good some special places retaining an individual character, content to appeal to a narrow market rather than the broad the summer traffic that once guiding businesses, now mass of holiday skiers. One trundled past the village on its such resort is Andermatt, where I spent a memorable Milan is syphoned off, effecday a couple of weeks ago.

Andermatt is the ultimate Alpine backwater. The valley The great majority of bottom village (traditional but Andermant's skiers are Swiss, slightly towny in style, despite its small size) is isolated from the Valais and Graubunden by high passes which are closed in winter - though car-carrying trains climb over the lat-

FU 8

of multiple

Lar Marie Ma

- Leftritely (1927)

ixed Alle

n a world where most ski impassable St Gotthard pass resorts offer variations on to the south lies Italy, or at least Italian Switzerland; in to know that there are still 1980, a road tunnel under the pass was opened, but its mouth is some miles down the valley below Andermatt, so two specialist off-piste way between Zurich and tively pushing Andermatt even

further from the beaten track. barracked on the edge of the village. When the lira will stand it, the village attracts Italians through the tunnel, too. But the British, once

numerous here, as in so many ter and burrow beneath the little old Swiss resorts, are thin former. Over the equally on the ground. WORLDCOVER

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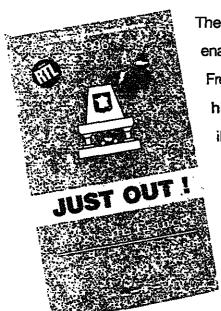
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Britain's newest theme park doesn't officially open until Friday. But Tracey Garner got a sneak preview, thanks to her son Jack

odern-day theme parkery is a funny business. We send a Brit, Trevor Davies, to mastermind the yearlong culture thrill ride in Copenhagen, European Capital of Culture for 1996. In return, Denmark sends us Legoland. The maker of the plastic bricks has a longestablished original in Billund, a small town in the middle of Jutland (and nowhere). The Danish invasion is the latest attack in the theme park war that is gathering momentum and g-forces across England, a country already endowed with a much higher occurence of thrills per hectare. Can Denmark's audacious opening next week - so close to Her Majesty's home - attract the nation's funseekers? I took my son Jack, aged eight, to find out.

Lions, polar bears, lizards and the like can still be found on the old _ Windsor Safari Park site, but these are now creatures of the Lego kind - painstakingly pieced together out of millions of those little plastic bricks, which many a mother will recognise as the things that hurt like hell when you tread on them and are a nightmare to get out of the Hoover's innards. The preview day on Saturday, ahead of next Friday's public opening, was exclusively for members of the Lego Club. It was billed as an opportunity to road test the park - in trade terms, a "soft opening" to iron out problems before the big day. Pay the discounted admission of £10, and be among the first kids on the new blocks.

So all the people who flooded in at 10am last Saturday were already Lego aficionados. The models certainly lived up to their expectations. Attention to detail is paramount: bright plastic birds in the trees, an injection-moulded boy attempting to retrieve his kite from the roof of a building, even a built-by-numbers dog relieving himself against a real tree. Twenty million bricks alone are used to recreate the cities of Europe. not counting the ones that are no doubt stuck down the back of the company sofa,

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owain (iii)

for a moment, what else is there to enacting the Mystery of the Missing do at this latest addition to our growing band of theme parks? If you go expecting white knuckle rides and roller coasters; you'll be sadly disaphouse to rapturous applause. It's pointed. Rides are few and far probably best to draw a veil over the the under-12s. The chance to drive "Overture and Beginners" is called on of a driving licence at the end of it) been polished up. and piloting a boat along a snaking river were probably the most popu- as tame as first appearances might lar attractions, and the queues built have you believe. The Danes obviup quickly. A hot summer Sunday ously get a kick out of sending jets of could be quite an ordeal.



Piccadilly Circus built by numbers at Legoland's latest venture in Windsor

blasting from his mouth, while his son played quietly in the corner. As ever, the children's adventure play area fails in the way of many theme parks: a serious lack of seating for parents playing with bricks).

Every theme park has to have live entertainment, and Legoland's are a mixed bag. The harbour show was But putting the bricks to one side superb, with five enthusiastic sailors Lego Bricks (down the back of the sofa, surely?), and leaping into freezing water from the top of a 30ft lightbetween, and unashamedly aimed at other shows in the hope that when your own Lego car (with the promise opening night, the acts will have

And beware of the maze: it's not water up the trouser legs of unsus-There are several areas for children pecting visitors. Few found it funny to play with bricks. One excited chap on a freezing March afternoon, grasped a couple of motorbikes, including the toddler found in the Eight-year-old lack, impressed by

a mini road with full sound effects perately trying to dry off his clothes under the hand dryer.

The Lego Shop – which is strate-gically positioned at the exit – stocks an unequalled range of all things Lego; from computer mouse mats to (the ones who don't happen to be a £35 tie. But from about 4pm

vrooming them enthusiastically along ladies toilet whose Mum was des- Danish building techniques

build all the models. The shop should inadequate under the challenge of hoards of departing visitors digging deep into their pockets. I'm sure I wasn't alone in promising my eight year old a trip to Toys 'R' Us the next day instead of standing in the unmoving queue.

When it came to sampling the restaurants and cafés we breathed a sigh of relief that we'd opted to bring our own picnic. Queues did trail out of the doors, but as the day was heavily billed as "a chance for us to try out procedures", grumbles about inexperienced staff and equipment failure can be forgiven as teething problems. However, the most important opin-

ions are surely those of loyal Lego Club members. Eight-year-old Jack, who should own shares in Lego if the thousands of bricks piled up in his bedroom are anything to go by, had this to say: "I thought the models were excellent. They had lots of detail, lights flashed on them and some moved, like the giant spiders legs. My favourite models were in the Technic rock 'n' roll band which were worked by a Lego mechanical system. It must have taken years and years to

What Anne East of London had planned Wwas "The trip of a lifetime for my 83-year-old mother", using a Eurostar train from London to Paris. What she got was a 20 MW Sanata Lindon to Paris. 20,000 Seconds Under the Sea nightmare. Question: was she was offered in compensation (a) nothing: (b) a form with which to apply for a voucher that might lead eventually to a replacement ticket; or (c) full recompense for all the money she lost plus four free return tickets to Paris?

The answer is "all three", but (c) was achieved only because of Ms East's persistence and refusal to be palmed off with excuses. Now we all have grumbles about flaws on our travels, and most of the time the best solution is to grin and bear it (and possibly yow to stay at home next time). But sometimes events go so calamitously wrong that anything short of generous redress is a scandal.

So it was in Ms East's case. I shall spare you every detail about her trip from Waterloo to Calais and back; suffice it to say that at precisely the moment she and her mother should have been in Paris, they were only arriving in Ashford. This, as it turned out, was the highlight of the trip. Once the train entered the Channel Tunnel, it developed a fault and all the lights were turned out to conserve energy. After a total of 16 hours, of which six were spent in the tunnel, Ms East and her mother arrived back at Waterloo, It was 2.30am.

"We were offered a taxi home, but no one mentioned anything about how Eurostar might make up for this disastrous journey. In the end I asked a customer service representative, and was handed a form to apply for a voucher." Tired and hungry (the last sandwiches having been eaten 15 hours earlier). Ms East was in no mood to argue. But the following day she wrote to European Passenger Services. which runs Eurostar in the UK, asking for more reasonable compensation.

Nothing happened for a week, save for her telling the Independent what was going on. Then the telephone rang. It was Eurostar's finance director, apologising for the series of blunders and agreeing to meet Ms East's claim in full. He also threw in a couple of free trips to the French capital. Commendable customer relations eventually, but if Ms East had not made a fuss she might have been left with nothing.

One reason Manchester is officially England's "top tourist town", as we reported last week, is the welcome shown to visitors. The award prompted Chris Walmsley of London to write with his own experience of the citizens' generosity.

'I was standing on a busy main road in Manchester in the pouring rain with a suitcase at my feet. A man driving a brown Datsun pulled up, leapt out, grabbed my case and only then explained that he was giving me a lift to wherever I was going.

Since my mother never advised me against accepting lifts from strangers, I got in and was driven, unsolicited, halfway across Manchester to Victoria station. When the driver asked me where I came from I said 'near Watford' and he replied 'Someone's got to live there'. When I asked him where he came from he said 'Salford' Quays'; I kept my mouth shut. I still wonder who he thought I was."

A Northwest Airlines flight from Gatwick to Minneapolis flew into turbulence at Christmas when a party of travellers let the party spirit get the better of them. A group of passengers became rowdy and started throwing food at cabin crew. The flight attendants refused to serve them any more alcohol, so the parents deployed their children to steal liquor from the drinks cart and a bit of a fracas began. Now a Surrey discount agency, Media Travel, has taken up the theme with its brochure of cut-price tickets to North America. The small print warns transatlantic passengers that "All fights (sic) must take place between 8 January and 28 March".

Qummer has arrived for many of Britain's theme Oparks, though snow was still on the ground at Alton Towers in Staffordshire (0990 204060) when it opened for business last Saturday. Instead of unveiling a new thrill ride, this season the main attraction is the new hotel adjacent to the site. The Alton Towers Hotel will remain open all year, the theme park closes on 3 November. Drayton Manor (01827 287979), close by at Tamworth, opens on 30 March.

Blackpool Pleasure Beach, which celebrates its centenary this summer, is offering all rides for 50p each today and tomorrow. This deal includes the Pepsi Max Big One, Europe's highest roller-coaster, normally priced at £3.50. Prices revert to normal from next weekend. On the east coast, the Magical World of Fan-

tasy Island (01754 872030) opens weekends only until 5 May, plus the whole of Easter week. The new attraction is "the world's first indoor hot-air balloon experience", enabling you to float to the top of the glass pyramid that houses the park. In south-east England, both Chessington World

of Adventures (01372 729560) and Thorpe Park (01932 569393) open their gates today, through until the end of October.

|: (LIT 155.000) Bologna Tower • Naples

The Field Studies Council's field centre at Slapton Ley, south of Totnes in Devon, will offer thrills of a more sublime kind when courses for adults begin on 19 April. The first option, "Birds of South Devon", is already sold out, but other events during the summer at the centre include a Photographic Safari (28 July-2 August, £185) and "Dart to Plym – exploring the South Devon coast-line" (23-30 August, £245). Call 01548 580466 for versity of Nottingham more details.

ir travellers from Devon have a new link with A Dublin from 31 March, when Jersey European (01392 360777) begins operating flights between Exeter and the Irish capital. The lowest return fare

Agood beach guide is included in the new North ACornwall holiday brochure, which is available free by calling 01208 261229. It recommends Summerleaze beach in Bude as ideal for families, but warns that Bedruthan Steps, near Padstow, is dangerous: "A place to look at rather than to sunbathe on."

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Vork is the venue for a literary weekend from 26 York is the venue for a interary weekend from 26 to 28 April, organised by Ways With Words (01803 867311). Sarah Kennedy, Jane Gardam and A S Byatt are among the speakers at the Dean Court Hotel (where the event is based) and St William's College. The price per person is £195.

The "Learn at Leisure" programme of the University of Nottingham includes a weekend in Dorchester investigating Thomas Hardy and Tess (24-27 May). Call 0115-951 6526 for details.

ast week Cheshire County Council won the Eng-Lland for Excellence "Tourism for All" award for doing most to help less able travellers. The counfor the 80-minute hop from Exeter to Dublin is cil has just published a Welcome Guide to the £104 (including tax) if you stay over a Saturday county for visitors with disabilities. Regular, large print and tape versions are available free from Cheshire Tourism and Marketing, Goldsmith House, Hamilton Place, Chester CH1 1SE.

> English Heritage begins its programme of events Laimed at "Bringing History Alive" at Easter. with 15th-century music at Helmsley Castle in North Yorkshire and falconry at Battle Abbey in East Sussex. Special Events Line: 0171-973 3396.

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made my hands cold, but I got a Lego

medal for the gold I collected. I

loved my driving lesson, but I was sad

there weren't any big rides like the

park to add to the "How do we enter-

tain the kids over this school holiday"

list, but Legoland Windsor's failure to

provide enough entertainment for the

adults and older kids bodes ill for

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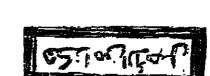


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'If you have to call reconstructing sheep shelters art, well, that's all right by me'

The sculptor Andy Goldsworthy is turning part of Cumbria into a sculpture park. By Rosie Millard

he sculptor Andy Goldsworthy is celebrating the Millennium by reconstructing a hundred stone sheep shelters in Cumbria. He is best known for the transience of his work (arches of ice carved at the North Pole; a curtain made from hand-joined twigs and leaves of sycamore) but this project, he hopes, will last at least another millenium "Ephemeral work is my core nourishment." he agrees. "But it's about the past. A moment that's gone. Sheepfolds is about the future: it's something launching us into what's

Indeed, the recent past of the Cumbrian sheepfold is a pitiful one. Once an essential part of hill-farming, these small walled constructions appeared on fells and local villages in their hundreds. There were three distinct varieties: sheepfolds were for keeping the sheep together: washfolds were for annual washing prior to clipping; and pinfields, built in vil-lages, were holding-pens for stray or stolen sheep.

Yet modern sheep-farming, all wire fences and chemical baths, meant farmers stopped the labour-intensive practice of going on to the fell to tend their sheep. So the little stone folds, used for thousands of years to wash, shelter and number their woolly inhabitants, have been abandoned and left to decay.

Goldsworthy's project hopes to redress this. An initiative by Cumbria County Council. Northern Arts and the Lottery, Sheepfolds is a £620,000project to bring back some of the folds to the hills, albeit for aesthetic rather than agrarian reasons. "I'm working where the existing folds used to be," says Goldsworthy, who is rebuilding all three separate types with the expert help of local dry-stone wallers. "I'm rebuilding folds which lay on the fell, or by drove-paths, by rivers, and in the centres of villages. I'm repairing folds with the stones left lying around, or where I have to start from scratch, I'm bringing in local stone." In each he is placing an abstract piece of sculpture; a monumental stone, perhaps, or a cone made from carefully placed layers of work which will be discovered by peocould have easily put in something sculptures in the country? which poked out and dominated everything, but I wanted it to be sub-

tle, and quiet. Indeed, the entire procedure, whilst not exactly stealthy, has been organised in an extremely low-key manner. "We sought a general blessing and it was on that basis that we proceeded." says Cumbria's public art consultant Steve Chettle. The hill farmers who and own the land were individually canvassed. "On the fields, in their kitchens, in their barns. We went and found them all. In the rain, in the snow. Public art in any landscape, not least the landscape of Cumbria, is a to the tourist-blighted Lake District. sensitive issue, says Chettle, understandably wary of wrecking the spectacular landscape of the Lakes. "We Flic will be encouraged to visit them via had to take in the particular qualities - a series of postcards helpfully marked of Cumbria."

The idea seems to have worked. "I'm not against old walls put back up again, by any manner of means," says hill farmer Bob Cuddy, whose thousand Herdwicks are just about to start tambing in Borrowdale Valley, "If you have to call it Art; well, that's all right by me. I'm all in favour of old folds and washes. It's a grand thing. The artist, well, he's doing his thing and



he's giving our local lads a bit of work. It's better than other arty stuff that's here," continues Cuddy, shuddering at the memory. "We've a Thing, and I'll call it a Thing, imported into our dale from God knows where - the centenary of the National Trust. It's as much in keeping with the Lake Dis-trict as a low-flying jet."

Not everyone is so positive. "He's had a lot of publicity," says Bampton hill farmer Peter Allen, "But I just wish stones. "Each fold will contain a it drew attention to the difficulties of working on the land as well as to his ple when they look inside. Many art. And why can't he just do one, not people won't even know it's there. I a hundred? Have you got 100 Rodin

Well no, but some think the ber and presence of Sheepfolds will draw attention to the problems and peculiarities of Lakeland hill farming. "Rural landscape is geriatric," says Andrew Humphries of Newton Rigg in Mungrisedale, site for the first two finished Goldsworthy folds. "We just patch it up and repair it. This gives us a chance to make new marks in the landscape, which both echo what went before, and give it a newly sustainable element.

According to Humphries, the project will usher in eco-friendly tourism All the folds are being built on, or near public rights of way and the pubwith Ordnance Survey Grid reference

People who visit the Lake District will now have a chance to explore and understand what they have come to see. The culture and people of the hill farmers," says Humphries, "It's difficult to see it in a vacuum, but if they can see something like the restored folds, it'll seem to matter. The Cumbrian sheepfolds are the only surviv-

Below: the sculptor Andy Goldsworthy, in his studio

Above: each recovered sheepfold hides a work of art



in England. They were built on common land. If people get excited about the flora and fauna of Cumbria. they'll look after the orchids here; but these folds and washes are our last vestiges of common land use. They've survived for over a thousand years and until now, no one's looked after them. This will help people value

Indeed, there's even a suggestion

only with the farmers but with the sheep themselves. Dry-stone waller Joe Smith is working with Goldsworthy on the project. To me, a wall, or a fold, is a functional thing. But one day we were in one of Andy's Mungrisdale folds, tidying up a few things. We sat down to have our sandwiches, says Smith. And do you know, some Swaledale sheep came in. They weren't sent in, or that with Goldsworthy's sheepfolds. herded in They just came in Just like

that. They were interested. They wandered in, and wandered out again. And do you know," continues Smith, "I can envisage people doing the same thing. Wandering in, scratching their heads and wandering out again.

Photographs: Craig Eastor

More information about Sheepfolds is available from Steve Chettle, Cumbria Public Art, The Old Stables, Redhills, Penrith, Cumbria CAI1 ODT.

COUNTRY PURSUITS



Steve Ralphs, Bowyer, Norfolk

For me the best part of the working week is when I walk into my garden and fire an arrow from one of my longhows that is nearing completion. A really good specimen will land an arrow in the clump of trees 45 yards away.

If the bow is made from yew this will be a rather fraught experience. We bowyers refer to failures - we never have breaks. It is often said that yew will fail at the first firing or last a lifetime.

From a dull piece of wood a good bowyer can produce a relatively good bow. But it is possible to produce a bad bow from an excellent piece of wood. The skill of the bowyer is to find the best timber and then produce the best possible bow from it. If it was a case of finding yew all the time I think I'd be a nervous wreck by now. A good English yew bow will take me over a week to make, and the timber it is made from will have had to be seasoned for at least five years. Even then there is more chance that it will fail at the first attempt than with a cheaper, laminated bow. I prefer to use wood from the

bole - the trunk - because that is the best way of producing staves of the right length and with the correct sap/heartwood proportions to ensure the bow is both strong and springy. If the bole is not clean of branches the timber is likely to contain pin holes, knots, sap rot, heart shake, cracks and splits. A piece of English yew that looks promising on the outside ends up as a pile of rubbish once I have cut into it and cleft some of the timber.

When I hear that a local yew tree is to be felled I rush out to see it. My mouth waters if it is dead straight like a telegraph pole, but I know from bitter experience that basically all English yew is a lottery. The best yew comes from the USA and Canada, where it grows at a higher altitude, which seems to make all the difference to quality.

I prefer to use a laminated bow, as they are more reliable. Mylaminated bows are made from a mixture of South American boxwood and hickory, for large archery specialists in this country, Germany, Holland and Sweden, as well as for the film industry.

Most days I can be found in my workshop at home. I try to vary the day as I find it hard to perform one function all day. However on Fridays I like to saw the basic staves of the next week's batch and to do most of the gluing of the two parts that make up the basic bow.

The least pleasant task is making the horn nocks - the traditional book arrangement at the ends of the bow to which the string is attached. Grinding up animal horn, which I buy in from abattoirs, is a nasty, smelly business. Finishing is also rather laborious

- I use a great deal of steel wool and fine abrasive paper before either French polishing or varnishing. The result is hopefully a commendable piece of craftsmanship. If I were to go for the highest

performance bow I could find I would choose an Olympic standard carbon fibre model designed by computer and made in the USA or Japan. But using a bow like that is shooting, not archery.

Steve Ralphs was talking to Clive

A little local trouble

The sheep farmers of Wales. according to this week's Country Life, are far from happy about their English counterparts intruding into the Principality. It's not their braying accents and city ways. It's not even their coarse-Anglo-Saxon manners, No. what really gets them is that the English have begun to to call themselves "flockmasters" rather than shepherds, "Flockmaster?", one of Mid-Glamorgan's home-grown farmers is quoted as saying. "It sounds like something out of Star Wars."

∐ail to Thee, blithe Spirit!/ Bird If thou never wert..." So begins Shelley's "To a Skylark". Sadly, were the poet writing in 1996 he might have continued: "Nor never more shall be." Apparently, Britain's Skylark population has gone into freefall over the past 20 years, dropping at a rate of 335. nirds a day, something the RSPB this week set up a campaign to stop. The main culprits seem to be pesticides, which have destroyed the caterpillers and other bugs that skylark chicks need. Herbicides have cut down the amount of seeds from weeds that the adult birds need. Even fields that have been "set aside", as part of crop rotation schemes, tend to be sprayed before

the young birds can fledge.
"If set-aside land could be left alone during May and June, the skylarks could bring off two broods a year," Chris Mead of the British Trust for Omithology said. But the present system has been set up to increase agriculture production rather than help the birds." He was keen to add, however, that, "it is not the fault of the farmers - they are under economic pressure." Adieu to thee ...

[inally, despite all the column Inches devoted to this week's Mad Human Disease revelations, one question remains: if the Government does decide to have the nation's entire cattle herd put down, what will happen to Britain's most famous bovinc. Ellie May, from The Archers?

Ellie's life has not exactly been a bed of roses recently. Only the other month listeners heard how terribly lonely she had become. stuck in field on her own. But surely they can't let her go to the knacker's yard in Borchester "Let's just say," says Vanessa Whitburn, the programme's editor. "we are looking at the whole BSE situation on a daily basis."

The madness of March hares

A may see mad March hares performing their rituals in the middle of a field. When the mating urge comes over them, they caper and cavort as if the ground were red hot, and sometimes they sit upright to box with their forefeet. Oddly enough, the ones that go in for such fisticuffs are not aggressive males, fancying themselves miniature Tyons, but females giving over-enthusiastic suitors the brush-off,

Nowhere in England is there a better chance of seeing bares than on the Game Conservancy Council's experimental farm at Loddington in Leicestershire. At a time when many surveys are reporting a decline in hare numbers, the population at Loddington has grown at an

astonishing rate. When the Game Conservancy took over in 1991, a count revealed only seven hares on 600-odd acres. With the introduction of efficient predator-control, and a greater diversity of farm crops. range of crops and cover is as coccidiosis, a virulent form

my day now, with luck, you numbers built up rapidly to may see mad March hares nearly 100 in 1994 - a total which Game Conservancy scientists considered remarkable. Imagine their astonishshowed 195 hares present.

There is no doubt about the causes of this spectacular revival. One is the fact that in spring and early summer the resident gamekeeper, Malcolm Brockless, clears his ground of predators. Whereas on other estates most leverets are killed by foxes and stoats, the absence of natural enemies at Loddington enables a high pro-

portion to survive. The second favourable factor is the agricultural regime. Experiment has shown that hares prefer to feed on, and live in vegetation no more than eight or 10 inches tall. On most arable farms, with large fields of wheat or barley, the crops soon grow above that height, leaving them with nothing to eat.

DUFF **HART-DAVIS**

available all year round. Some corn is sown in winter, some in the spring, as well as linseed and beans; there are also numerous set-aside strips. planted with mixtures of grass, rape, and kale. The result is a patchwork, as agreeable to the human eye as

it is to hares and game-birds. Conservancy researchers readily admit that the tremendous resurgencehas taken them by surprise. They do not yet know what. level of population the farm will safely sustain, and they fear that with so many hares At Loddington the farming on the ground there may be tion which can quickly kill

mature animals in spring. As a precaution, last year alive to the Ministry of WD arrows on their bottoms". Defence gunnery ranges at Meanwhile, he has done all he Castlemartin, in Pem-can to make the environment mandant, Lt Col Michael Portman, is making a bold attempt to re-colonise 6,000 acres of grassland.

A keen beagler. Colonel Portman saw from old records that hares once flourished in Pembrokeshire: the Estate, which used to own unusual to shoot 800 a year. martin in 1991 there was not

ilar to jackdaws).

of diarrhoea, or pseudo- man therefore set about tuberculosis, a bacterial infec- importing some, not only from Loddington, but also from other areas. A batch from the ammunition depot at Kineton, they shot 45 hares and sent 18 in Warwickshire, arrived "with brokeshire, where the Com- more attractive, putting in root crops, planting new woodland and calling local

foxes. It is too early to say whether his enterprise will succeed. One snag is that in winter the ranges are grazed down to the texture of a golf game-books of the Cawdor course by sheep brought off the Prescell mountains, so some of the land, show that that food and cover diminish. in the 1880s it was not Meanwhile, at Loddington, the Game Conservancy's When he arrived at Castle- neighbours have accused them of luring all the hares in a single hare to be seen, but Leicestershire on to their the ranges were full of other land. The opposite is maniwild life, including buzzards. festly true: that surplus anibarn owls and choughs (sim- mals are moving out into neighbouring territories - a Being untouched by chem- fact which will no doubt be icals, and rarely visited by confirmed when radiois planned so that a greater an outbreak of disease such humans, the grassland seemed tracking experiments start

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ideal for hares. Colonel Port- this autumn.

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Same car, different label

A Mazda is really a Fiesta, a Proton is a Mitsubishi. What's happened to brand values? By Gavin Green

he other day I discovered that my favourite designer tie is now available in a well-known high street store. wearing that well-known high street store's label. I'll now probably run into endless other guys wearing exactly the same piece of silk around their necks. Well, things could be worse, I thought. When I was told that their ties will have cost them half what I payed, I confess to being more peeved than surprised. We all know that designer labels have bigger mark-ups than high street store's own-brands. The greater exclusivity and "brand value" kids us into believing that such extravagance is worthwhile. Nonetheless there still seems to me something dishonest about two goods with different labels actually being one and the same. My BMW of ties is now re-badged as a Ford.

There a few marketing tricks unknown to the car industry, of course. Any business so adept at turning tin boxes into sex symbols (as the motor industry has done over the years and is now doing with renewed vigour in its advertising), cannot be regarded as anything other than shrewd. No surprise then that, when it comes to the tie-type trick, the car industry has been there before.

We British have been particularly exposed

to it. BLs many different cars in the Sixties were invariably just a small pool of models wearing different disguises. Rileys were just Morrises which were just Austins. Just as, until recently, Rovers were just Hondas with more wood inside and a smarter grille.

But the same car/different label trick is now reaching almost epidemic proportions. And, just as with me and my tie, I suspect that the poor punter, who pays great heed to brand values, is being misled.

The most recent example is the new Mazda 121. The old 121 was an oddball little thing, made in Japan. Not many were sold in Britain but those who took the plunge, I'm told, were mostly very pleased. They no doubt valued the 121's made in-Japan honesty and reliability, and its ease of operation. Mazda ownership promises (and usually delivers) a hassle-free relationship between company and customer.

No doubt those 121 owners, when it comes to the trade in, will first think of the new 121. They'll visit their Mazda dealer and be assured of the many virtues of the new model (not disingenuously either, for it's a good car). They they'll probably sign on the bottom line. I wonder how many Mazda salesmen will voluntarily admit that, in fact, they're buying a Ford? Designed by Ford, ping for ties next time.

developed by Ford, and built by Ford (in Dagenham). The new 121, you see, is noth-ing more or less than a Ford Fiesta with different badges and minor changes. It's a clever move, by Mazda, to circumvent import restrictions on Japanese-made cars: being made in Britain, the new 121 is outside the quota. Ford, too, benefits: in effect, it's now making more Fiestas.

Ford is rather good at playing the this game. Its Ford Maverick 4x4 is a re-badged Nissan Terrano. The Ford Probe is a Mazda MX-6 coupe. The Ford Galaxy Multi-Purpose Vehicle (MPV) is the same as a Volkswagen Sharan, and the upcoming Seat Alhambra. That it is the best MPV is little consolation. At least when you buy a Renault Espace, you know that no non-Espace driver has one.

There are myriad other examples. The latest Rover 400 ("the best long distance ride on earth") is a Honda Civic 5-door. The Citroën Saxo, unveiled with much pomp and ceremony at the recent Geneva Show, is just a Peugeot 106 in drag. The Vauxhall Monterey 4x4 is an old Isuzu Trooper (not that it matters too much: nobody buys either). The new Citroën Synergie MPV is the same as a Peu-geot 806 or a Fiat Ulysse. The heavily promoted new Daewoos, whose catchy ads are helping rack up impressive sales, are merely old Vauxhalls. Malaysian Protons are just old

Does any of this matter? Does the punter really care, as long as he gets a decent, reli-able car? On the face of it: yes it does.

If you buy a Galaxy MPV, you've probably made a conscious decision to buy a Ford. Then you find out that your neighbour has just bought a Volkswagen Sharan and you're dismissive ("dour, stodgy Volkswagens. Look at the Beetle: what a joke! And besides they're German").

Then somebody tells you it's the same car. The only difference is that a little man in Portugal, where they're made, puts VW badges on some and Ford badges on the others. If all this doesn't matter, then brand values a Holy Grail of marketing, a basic tenet of our capitalistic system - must be complete and utter baloney. On second thoughts, brand values are

often complete and utter baloney, determined either by history (which Henry Ford admitted was bunk) or by clever advertising. They often do not reflect the quality of the product, A Ford is just a car, just as a VW is a car, and just as a Daewoo is an old car.

Oh well, at least I know where to go shop-





Snot the difference: the new Mazda 121 (top) is nothing more and nothing less than a Ford Fiesta (above) with another badge and a few minor changes

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road test Jeep Grand Cherokee



and Rover should worry. Britain's 4x4 maker thought it Lhad broken free from the pack of Japanese off-roaders. by pitching its new Range Rover further up-market than any off-roader had ever ventured. Then, along comes the Jeep Grand Cherokee from the USA. No funny Japanese name as half how to be seen as the seen as the

name, no bull-bars, just a smart new car from the only off-roader maker that can compete with Land Rover.

Jeep's existing Cherokee has already proved a hig hit with those who would otherwise look to a Land Rover. Discovery or something Japanese. The Grand is a bigger, smoother, more modern and more expensive version of the Cherokee idea, but at £28,995 it s still more than £4,000 cheaper than the cheapest Range Rover. It is not quite as new as it seems, having been launched in 1992. but is only now available with right-hand drive.

Automatic transmission comes as standard (the forthcoming turbodiesel version will be a manual), and for the most part you just select Drive and let the Jeep get on with it. I'd prefer it if the transmission didn't change up so soon during normal driving - the engine feels as though it is labouring - but the upshot is that engine noise seldom intrudes.

A viscous coupling in the transmission means that the Grand Cherokee behaves as a rear-wheel-drive car most of the time, with power being diverted to the front wheels automatically as the rears lose their grip. It makes for easy, fail-safe handling, bucked up by an absorbent ride over bumps, and smooth (if imprecise) steering.

Why favour a Grand Cherokee over a Range Rover? The Jeep gives a similar blend of attributes, and rather more stylish looks, for less money. There's also the possible kudos of knowing that European-market Grands are built at the Steyr-Daimier-Puch factory in Austria. alongside the indestructible Mercedes-Benz G-wagen.

So what's the snag? Plastic wood on the dashboard, exposed for its true self by having "Jeep" and "SRS" (indicating an airbag) moulded into it. Like I said, it s cheaper than a Range Rover. Butz well worth the saving, plastic wood or not.

John Simister

Specifications

Jeep Grand Cherokee 4.0 Limited, £28,995. Engine, 3960cc, six cylinders, 174bhp at 4600rpm. Four-speed automatic gearbox, four-wheel drive. Top speed 112mph, 0-60 in 9.9 seconds. Fuel consumption 18-23mpg.

Rivals

Isuzu Trooper 3.2 V6 Citation LWB, £24,799. Land Rover Discovery 3.9 V8 ES, £28,900. Mitsubishi Shogun 3.5 V6 SE 5-door, £36,079. Range Rover 4.0 VB, £33,350. Toyota Landcruiser VX 4.5, £39,549.

When you're buying a second-hand Mercedes, read the service book

By James Ruppert

business a good image makes life a lot easier. And in the case of Mercedes, it makes the German car a sensible and safe, if expensive used buy. For a car that in its native land leads a double life as the nation's favourite taxi, you might think that image would be hard to come by. But not a bit of it. All the qualities that are required to keep a Hackney carriage on the road - reliability, comfort and solidity - are standard features on the Mercedes, especially the medium-sized models like the W123 and its successor, the E class. Not opulent like the huge S class, or remotely sporty like the SLs, these models won't ever let you down. With the arrival of the new E class, there has never been a better time to consider one of these classy saloons.

The W123, also referred to as the 200 series, lasted 10 years, staying in production from 1976 to 1986, although used examples are set to be with us well into the next century. Build quality on these cars was nothing short of remarkable. Everything about them is heavy, from the minimum 3000 pound kerb weight to the Fort Knox doors - and, it has to be said, the rock hard seats. Firmness is part of the

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Mercedes interior experience. One flick of the precise switchgear proves that the flimsiest thing on board is the driver. Not surprisingly there is a sixth digit on the mileometer to cope with the inevitable multi thousand mileage. So beware owners who lie about the true mileage, or the car's previous life as a private hire taxi.

When it comes to choosing a model, the 200 is slow. the 230E pleasant and the six-cylinder 280E the best, the last few owners were avoiding the ones that have

mage. In the used-car Diesels are deservedly popular, but are painfully slow. TE estate models are the most up-market of load luggers and easily eclipse the common Volvo.

The W124, more commonly called the E class, carried on from where it's predecessor left off, as a relaxing, sophisticated and prestigious package. It was a big improvement, with more modern styling, lighter bodies and better performance. The range steadily grew to include more engine options. ABS braking was

attention is the Mercedes only enemy and then things will start to go expensively wrong. Always buy an automatic, but don't pick an unwise beige, dull or watery colour scheme which looks awful and can knock hundreds off the resale value. Sunroof and alloy wheels also make selling a Merc on even easier. So if the W123/4 you like looks pristine. drives quietly and has a history then there is nothing to worry about, in theory.

In practice, I stumbled

remarkable testament to the

Mercedes marque when I

visited a friend and his

recently acquired W123.

Parked in a field for a year.

it had a patchy history and

poor prospects. My friend

bought it for £250 and

towed it away. After a minor

service, a new battery and a

steam clean, it runs and dri-

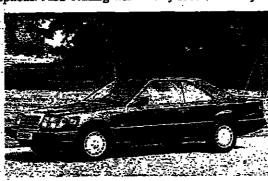
ves like a two-year-old

Maybe he was lucky, but

despite the 120,000 miles.

there are plenty of similar

cars advertised at around



standardised and owners could stamp their own per- across perhaps the most sonality on the cars by ordering "Sportline" special equipment. Further model upgrades occurred in 1992, when the driver's airbag was standardised and new 24-valve six-cylinder engines were installed. Once again the 230E is the best budget model, but six cylinders on the 260 and 300

make even more sense. Buying a middleweight Mercedes like this only requires that you do one thing: read the service book. It there isn't one, worry. An £1,500 to £2,000 in quite E series with a patchy history remarkable condition. The is best left alone. You can be most you will pay is £5,000 more lenient with the older for a 1986 TE estate unless W123, but there must be evi- the genuine mileage is specdence (lots of receipts) that tacularly low. The trick is

recently been retired from prepared to spend money on the mini cab circuit. servicing and parts. Lack of that I could believe in. I visited Western Mercedes Benz

in Edinburgh. They had a 300E for £11,495 with the ideal specifications of an automatic gearbox and alloy wheels. It was a two-owner example with full service history, and mileage a careful 75,000. Down south, Dick Lovett had another 1988 E Class, 230 TE estate. Seven seats, automatic and air conditioning, almost perfect, for a reasonable £12,995. At Brunswick in Croydon £32,995 could get last year's E320 with all mod cons and a tiny 9,000 mileage.

For cost-effective Mercedes shopping you have to consider private sellers or specialists. At Kenton in north London there was a good selection of E-class cars. Their diesel estates started at £10,395 for a 1987 model and tose to £15,995 for a 1990 300E 24-valve with leather and service history. There was even a 1983 280SE at £4,995.

For something more unusual, Stadium Cars in Glasgow had a tarted up, F registered 300E at a mere £9,995. The good news was a full Mercedes service history, but not everyone would appreciate its body kit, even if it is a factory approved AMG add on. An E class, or in fact any Mercedes, will always looks better without any adornment. Right car, nice price, wrong

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money

Investments with Eastern promise

Clifford German looks at some funds with a yen for Japanese markets

eventually return to favour. It is a basic assumption of most fund managers. While New York and London are close to all-time highs. and the Tokyo market has rallied by about 25 per approved investment cent since it bottomed out last summer. Japan is barely 50 per cent of its all-time high, says Ed Management, the independently-owned. Guernseybased managers.

been several false dawns already. But no fewer than three funds are raising money this month. the management charge For the first time in years a rebound in investment by Japanese companies is coinciding with a further round of public sector spending on the infrastructure, the current exchange rate has made Japanese companies comhome and abroad, company earnings are set to double over the next two years, and there is scope for increased consumer spending, according to Gartmore Investment Trust Management's managing director, Michael Wrobel.

After keeping a low profile on Japan for five years Gartmore is launching its Select Japanese Investment Trust to parallel its unit trust. It hopes to raise up to £75m at 100p a share with one shares. The minimum subscription is £1,000 and the initial expenses are capped at 4.5 per cent with an annual charge of

l per cent. It will invest in 60 to 70 companies with the initial emphasis on smaller and

is inevitable that medium-sized companies Japan will return to in the domestic manufaceconomic growth and turing, electronics and Japanese shares will real estate sectors. Mr Wrobel is bullish about demand for personal computers and mobile phones where take-up is well below US levels.

Atlantis is hoping to raise \$150m through an trust to invest in Japan for long-term capital growth. favouring healthcare. leisure and media sectors Merner, of Atlantis Fund and some technology companies. It will avoid banks and utilities. The minimum subscription is The only question is £1,500, investors will when, and there have receive one free warrant for every five shares, the initial charge is likely to be around 4 per cent and

1.5 per cent a year. Although Japan funds are not fully eligible as PEP investments, up to £1.500 can be held as part of a £6,000 general PEP. Investors can ask their PEP manager to buy shares for their PEP or petitive and profitable at can transfer shares they buy in the public offer to their PEP within 42 days of the allotment.

Meanwhile. General Accident Life has launched a guaranteed growth bond to invest in the Tokyo market over the 66 months to November 2001. Investors will receive the growth in the Nikkei 300 index on 95 per cent of their investment and a guaranteed return of 125

Charges are included in the terms of the offer free warrant for every five and the minimum investment is £2,500. There is an early investment bonus for applications received before 20 May.

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your mortgage costs for the next tainably cheap for some time. since the cost of funds for two years and more ahead started anticipating the near certainty of

a Labour government in power by

But the mortgage war is not going to fizzle out. The battlefront has simply shifted to other fronts. Norwich & Peterborough in fact has almost simultaneously withdrawn its five-year fixed rate of 7.24 per cent and cut its fixed rate The fact is five-year mortgage to July 1997 from 3.99 per cent to

Alliance & Leicester has come up with a new low one-year fixed month penalty for paying back within five years.

All rates are shown gross and are subject to change without notice.

Legal & General has returned to the fray by cutting the cost of its two main mortgage products, Guaranteed Gold and Flexible Reserve, from 6.95 per cent to 6.39

able through financial advisers, sales forces and over the phone cent on loans over £5,000.

from its direct sales department. Flexible Reserve allows borrowers rate of 1.65 per cent with a six to accelerate repayments at any time, and equally important, to borrow back the additional payments at any time. There are no hidden fees and no penalties for

early redemption. Other short-term borrowing rates are also continuing to fall. The TSB this week has cut its personal loan rates by 2 per cent to 12.9 per cent APR on loans over through Legal & General's own £7,500 and by I per cent to 15.9 per



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This is welcome news to savers. but it has implications for borrowers. If you have been thinking of taking the plunge and fixing

five years, it is make your mind up time. In the last fortnight, three of the best five-year fixed rates have been withdrawn, and the cheapest current offer still available, according to brokers John Charcol, is Coventry Building Society's 6.79 per cent plus a 3 per cent fee.

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Future options

That don't break the bank. David Porter advises

weeks understandably makes investors think about how to

Until then the London stock mar-ket had been within spitting distance of its all-time high. The last interest rate cut should have stabilised London shares for a bit longer. But that was completely overshadowed by plunging markets on Wall Street. London markets followed the US stock market fall causing investors to revise views on where they think shares will head now. A general election is looming - another damp-

Some may conclude that the negatives outweigh the positives - that shares are due for another dive. The bulls have had a good run. Over the past 12 months investors have seen the values of share portfolios soar. Over that time the FT-SE 100 index, comprising shares in Britain's or a "put option" giving the buyer largest companies, has risen almost 20 per cent.

Can investors lock in some profit so that if the bears gain the upper hand they do not lose all of their hard-earned gains? They could sell some shares. That takes nerve as they will lose out if the bullish noises from some quarters turn out to be right. As well as ruling out any further capital gain they would also lose dividend income generated from the shares. Selling shares could also increase an investor's tax burden. Gains up to £6,000 in this tax take out a "put" option to guaranyear are exempt from capital gains tax. But if an investor is already close to breaching that limit before the end of the tax year on 5 April then any sales will probably incur

Traded options offer one possible Locking in a sale price at 750p answer to investors' prayers. Tony would cost 39p a share so the rock Hawes, manager of equity products bottom price that the investor can

he turmoil in global stock at the London International Finan-markets over the past two cial Futures and Options Exchange (Liffe) thinks they should feature in most investors' financial planning lock in gains without neces- toolkits. "Buying a 'put' option sarily dumping shares or trig-guarantees a minimum sale price on gering a liability to capital 68 of the most actively traded shares," he says.

First investors should look to see whether any of their shares feature in the 68 on which options can be bought and sold. To do this they can either ring their stockbroker or examine the statistics pages of the Financial Times at the local library.

Principally, the 68 are the UK's largest quoted companies and range from supermarket group Asda to pharmaceuticals giant Zeneca.

Traded options are a bit complicated at first glance. That is why Liffe runs training courses up and down the country for investors. But for each of the 68 most traded shares there are two types of contract on offer: a "call option" giving the buyer a right to buy shares at a set price on a fixed future date; a right to sell shares at a specified price on a fixed date in the future. A contract would cover "put" and "call" options on lots of 1.000 in the 68. Like the shares they

shadow the price of a "put" or a "call" change daily. So now for some recent examples of how "put" options could be put to work. Take Barclays Bank shares, currently trading a little over 720p. They have risen strongly from a low of 550p over the past year. This could prompt some investors to tee a minimum sale price. Currently buying a put option at 700p 14p for each Barclays share, effectively locking the sale price at 686p (700p less the cost of option, 14p).

expect per Barclays share is 711p, although don't forget about the other costs involved (see below). In the case of a "put" option the con-tract becomes worthless if at expiry the exercise price is below that prevailing on the shares in the stock markeL

Take another good performing share over the past year – Zeneca. Shares in this drugs giant were changing hands around 1,340p last Thursday. They have risen from a low of 840p in the past year. Locking in at 1,300p would cost 16p per share so the minimum guaranteed price that investors can expect at the end of the term in mid-April is 1,284p per Zeneca share. The cost of a "put" contract over 1,000 shares would be £160 (1.000 shares at the option price 16p) but there would be stockbrokers' commission (probably a minimum £20 to £25). Stockbrokers normally charge a nominal sum of £1 to £2 on top for arrang-

ing each option contract. At any stage during the fixed term, right up to the day of expiry. the option can be sold, but investors would incur dealing costs. The other choice open to investors is to exercise the option to sell shares. although once again stockbroker dealing costs would be triggered.

The Liffe market is sometimes viewed as a gambler's paradise. But here it is providing a useful investor service that can prove to be highly relevant towards the end of a tax year - more so this year given the spectacular rise of the stock market.In effect it is providing what amounts to an insurance service for investors in these uncertain times.

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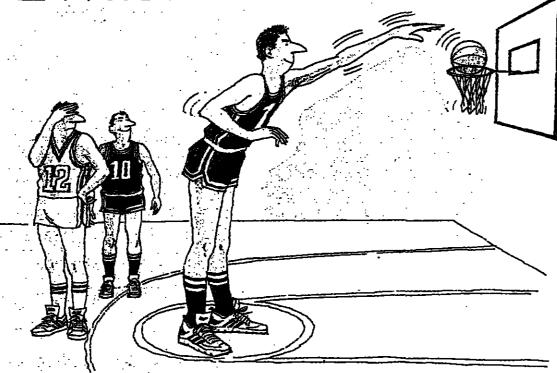
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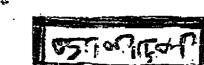
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Motor insurance myth hits the crash barrier

The demise of the knock-for-knock agreement has not dented insurers' profits as much as they feared. By Nigel Richardson

uch has been said and written over many years about the motor insurers' knock-forknock agreement, much of it untrue, often y motorists who had little understanding of how it worked or how it applied to them. The one feature always common to any debate on the subject was the insistence by insurers that the agreement worked in the best interests of the majority of motorists in that it helped to keep their premiums low. Even I was persuaded this was the case and have been known to use the argument in its support. It is only now, following the withdrawal of the agreement, that insurers have discovcred how untrue this argument had become.

The knock-for-knock was simply an agreement hetween most motor insurance companies and Lloyd's syndicates. If their clients were involved in an accident they would avoid considerable litigation expense and delay in settling by paying their own client's damage claim, if covered by the policy, without seeking any recovery from the negligent party or their insurer.

The agreement worked reasonably well in the days of the old tariff companies, a tariff that required members to charge exactly the same premium. The tariff had the effect of producing similar client bases for participating insurers, especially the ratio of comprehensive to non-comprehensive policies. This was crucial for the success of the agreement as it relied on the belief that over a number of claims the insurers' liability aspect would be evened out, very much a case of swings and roundabouts.

gone unnoticed by clients had it not been for the no claims bonus. Insurers have always been careful to emphasise that it is a no claims bonus not a no blame bonus. Far too often insurers would delete the bonus if they had settled the claim under the agreement. whereas it should still have been allowed if their client was not to blame.

The maximum permitted bonus under the tariff system was at one stage only 10 per cent (and protected no claims bonuses had not even been thought of) so

not argue. To others, however, it was like showing a red rag to a buil. It was not so much the extra premium that annoyed them as the damage to their pride. How

dare an insurer imply their driving skills were suspect?

Those that did complain were generally told to establish they were not to blame. It was not, after all, in the interest of the insurer to establish liability as by doing so they could lose 10 per cent of the next premium. It is not surprising that motorists took such a Such an agreement between insurers would have dislike to the agreement despite being told it worked

in their best interest. Had the agreement been applied correctly as far as bonus was concerned their clients would never have known of its existence. Those who took the wise decision to insure through a broker generally fared better. Generally unknown to them their broker would have pressed the insurer into allowing the bonus where it was justified in doing so.

Certainly there was a period in my own career where one of my key tasks was to broke renewals where there

some clients, happy that the claim had been paid, did had been claims. Frequently I was successful in persuading reluctant insurers to allow the no claims bonus where the claim had been dealt with under the agreement. Merely a study of the circumstances of the incident and the nature of damage to the insured vehicle was generally sufficient to determine liability.

The tariff system itself and the knock-forknock concept collapsed under the impact of competition from new insurers who refused to be party to any trade agreements. This provided them the freedom to target preferred classes of business, the result being that over a number of years insurers built differing profiles of business, in particular the ratio of comprehensive to non-

comprehensive clients. The main weakness of the old knock-for-knock became evident it had led to comprehensive clients subsidising those who opted for reduced cover, while insurers with mainly comprehensive clients were in turn subsidising those who wrote mainly third party business.

To illustrate the problem take the incident where a motorist insured for third party is negligent in colliding with a motorist insured comprehensively. The third party insurer pays nothing to their client, the comprehensive insurer settles his client's claim and is unable to make a recovery from the negligent driver's insurer because of the agreement. Had the liability been the other way around the comprehensive insurer would have had to pay the cost of the damage to both vehicles. So the comprehensive insurer was always having to pay his own damage and in addition the damage to any third party vehicle where their policyholder was negligent. Meanwhile the third party insurer never paid any accidental damage except maybe under an uninsured loss claim.

Once a predominately comprehensive insurer had finally taken the bold step of cancelling their knock-for-knock agreements they were often surprised to find that they were actually recovering the majority of the accidental damage payments they were making to their clients without any appreciable cost in doing so. Those insurers who favoured third party risks were obviously not so keen to end an agreement that had been highly profitable for them. They were now having to pay their policyholders' correct share of the overall

The result has been a rating change that is now far fairer to the majority of motorists, those that purchase comprehensive cover. Under the agreement third party premiums were only about half of the equivalent comprehensive rate. Today that has risen to around 75 per cent. The change has been achieved as much by comprehensive pre-miums falling as by any increase in the third party

Any other change? Well yes, surprise surprise, predominantly third party insurers are now looking for a more balanced account by attempting to attract more comprehensive clients and comprehensive insurers are more inclined to consider limited cover policies now that premiums for

iem nave riseri. So are we seeing the beginning of a return to the days of the old tariff where large insurers all write similar portfolios of business? Perhaps that is wishful thinking in a market dominated by a lust for market share rather than any sound or logical underwriting practice. But at least the myth about the agreement acting in the best interest of the motorist has at last been laid to rest.

Nigel Richardson is motor schemes manager at the RAC

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here is no greater competition between investment practitioners than that between those who favour growth shares and those who engage in so-called "value" investing. The former say that the key to making. Price. His name still adorns a money consistently is buying number of mutual funds in the shares that are experiencing rapid growth in earnings. The lat-ter say that a much better Slater is one well-known investor approach is to look for those that are selling at such a low price relative to earnings, asset value or cash flow - that the only way

they can go is up.

These two approaches stand at the twin ends of the investment spectrum. Most investors incline, by choice or by temperament, to one approach or to the other. Both like to call on important figures in the history of investment theory. Value investors, for example, pay allegiance to Ben Graham, an American academic turned investment manager. Graham was a classical scholar

who liked nothing better than reading the small print in balance are small, fast growing compa-sheets. He was the first man to mies whose earnings rise steadily turn stock market research into a reputable activity, and in a series of books and monographs laid down a series of guidelines for value-based investing which are still required reading for serious students. His book, Security Analysis, remains the standard textbook for professional analysts and fund managers.

Growth stock investors, by contrast, pay homage to a different pantheon of heroes. Perhaps the first to establish a lasting reputation for his methods was another American, T Rowe United States, In more recent Slater is one well-known investor who has popularised his own version of growth stock theory.

Given the millions of words that have been expended by proponents of these two schools of investing to prove the superiority of their chosen methods, anyone who tries to summarise the differences in a few lines is liable to be accused of distortion and simplification. The divisions are not perhaps quite as deep as those between Eurosceptics and Europhiles, but they are not far Crudely summarised, how-

ever, the kind of shares that get growth stock investors excited over a period of years. By definition, they tend to have low dividend yields - growth stocks are too busy growing to have much time for dividends - and high price/earnings ratios. Most of their value is represented by future potential, rather than past achievement or current performance. Investors who can find



JONATHAN DAVIS **INVESTMENTS**

and jump aboard such a company while it is still on its growth trajectory can often make spectacular returns.

What excites a value investor, by contrast, are shares that, for whatever reason, are selling at what looks like a cheap price, when compared with their own recent performance or that of the rest of the stock market. A good stock for a value investor is one with a high yield and low price/earnings ratio. Best of all is a company that has plenty of issets but which is currently out of favour with the prevailing fashion in the stock marker. Those who have the courage to buy this kind of share at the height of its unpopularity can also make a lot of money.

Which strategy is better? The arguments have raged for years. In practice, a lot depends on two things: Firstly, what sort of risks the investor is looking to take. Growth stocks may be potentially the most rewarding, but they also carry a higher risk of failure - and you also have to be able to

spot the real growth stocks from the shooting stars, companies that fizzle strongly, only to burn out equally quickly. Value investors by contrast tend to be much more risk-averse.

Secondly, what is happening to the market and the economy as a whole. The early stages of an upturn in the economic cycle tend to produce a raft of small companies whose products or services are much in demand, and whose earnings are therefore growing fast. The question is whether they can sustain that growth when the cycle turns down, or when the market itself moves from a bear to a bull phase. The best time to find value stocks is when gloom in both the stock market and the economy is all around - as it was in the mid 1970s. Then you can buy blue chip companies on earnings or asset value multiples that are but a fraction of their historical average. In markets like today's, when optimism is high and interest rates have

fallen sharply, that is less easy.

A research study in the United States now claims to have new and definitive insights into the timeless debate between value and growth investors. According to the Wall Street weekly magazine, Barron's, a fund manager called Jim O'Shaughnessy has gained exclusive access to the vast Standard & Poor's database of stock market performance in the 45 years since 1951. He has used it to test which stock-pick-

ing strategies have produced the best results over that period. The full results will not be published until the summer, but these are some of his conclusions, as reported by Barron's. In general, they tend to support the view that value investing is the better bet over the long term, but with some notable exceptions. Bear in mind that the data refers exclusively to Wall Street, though the results in London would almost certainly be little

· Popular stocks are a surefire way to lose money. If you had bought those shares with the highest prices relative to cash flow, sales or assets, you would have seriously underperformed the stock market as a whole in subsequent years.

 Buying shares based solely on their price/earnings ratio is also a good way to underperform. the market as a whole. Shares that have either unusually high or

unusually low p/e ratios provide no guarantee of exceptional performance; if anything, rather the opposite.

·What does seem to work well is huying the shares that have done best in the previous year. Among big companies. those that were the worst performers in the previous year continue to underperform as a group. In general, says Mr O Shaughnessy, all the best stock-picking strategies he found were based, in part at least, on finding shares which displayed strong relative strength (ie, they had done better than the market

as a whole in the recent past). The best results of all seem to come from combining value and growth criteria - for example. picking those shares with above average recent perfor-mance whose market value was also low relative to the company's sales. The main drawback: finding companies that meet these criteria is often hard

The other drawback with such historical analyses is that - as it rightly says in the small print of all financial advertisements these days – past performance is no guide to future performance. What Mr O'Shaughnessy's research does underline, however, is that following fashion is one certain way to secure

Abstract nightmares

Michael Peters learned about the art market the hard way. By Corinne Simcock

Michael Peters OBE, 55, is founder and managing partner of Identica, a "new wave" brand design, corporate identity, innovations and multimedia consultancy with clients including Unilever, NatWest, United Dis-tillers, Mercury One-2-One, Finnair and

After graduating from Yale with a Master of Fine Arts degree in 1964, he went on to set up Michael Peters and Partners, which became the largest design firm in the world and was floated in 1983. But he yearned for a smaller business again and in 1992 he formed Identica, which has since achieved a fee income of more than £3m and employs

ears ago, when I was at art school in America, I studied under a very famous painter called Joseph Albers. He was an émigré from the Bauhaus, the most influential institute of architecture and design in Germany. This man had a very great influence on me.

It was Albers who introduced me to the Italian painter Matta, and I became a great lover of his work too.

I always wanted to own some of their paintings, but as a student, of course, it was completely out of my reach. It wasn't until the Eighties that I was able to fulfil that particular ambition and acquire works of art by both of them.

By then, like many designers, I had become an avid collector. Over the years I had invested mainly in the work of British painters and craftsmen. It is a passion of mine to spot young artists and designers and give them some support.

But when an abstract by Matta became available at auction, I simply couldn't resist it. He wasn't much in demand at the time as he was known to very few people, and I managed to buy it for £10,000.

ing something I had always admired as a my collection.

youngster. To have a Matta in my hands felt like one of the greatest gifts in the world. It was like having a new baby. This painting made marvellous use of colour and form, and every day I looked at it I saw something

My golden rule has always been never to sell anything, because my collection is very important to me. Just as everybody knows what they were doing when Kennedy was shot, my collection represents to me the chronology of my life.

But the painting was about 7ft by 6ft, and it is fair to say that it took up rather a large amount of the wall. To do it justice required a lot of available space, and when I moved offices a year later there really was no place for it, so I decided with great regret that I should sell it.

To my surprise, when I auctioned it in 1989, it sold for £16,000. I was amazed. because I don't buy art to sell for the profit. However, it had turned our to be a terrific investment and I was extremely happy.

At least, I was happy until 1992 when a catalogue arrived through my door for a big out of vogue. art auction in New York. There, in colour, was my Matta painting with a reserve price of \$200,000.

My first thought was 'Shit'. I was aston-

order to be certain I compared it with colour photographs which I take of all additions to my collection. Sure enough, it was the same painting.

Lsubsequently learned that the picture the big collectors are doing, but I just had sold for \$285,000. By this time I was a gobsmacked. It was hard to swallow that mistake I hope I will never make again, and a painting could sell for that price when I have continued to invest in the arts ever only three years earlier I had sold it for since. £16,000.

peeved. It was a very great error on my part. If only I had stuck to my guns and I felt such a sense of achievement, own-not sold something which formed part of an investment.



But where I really went wrong was in not being savvy to the market. Having decided to sell, I should have done some research, because - like fashion - painters go in and

Had I checked it out I would have discovered that in the early Nineties, Matta had become a big discovery. After all, by that

time he was dead. ished, absolutely astonished.

Apart from feeling sick and fed up, it taught me a very great lesson. If you want Apart from feeling sick and fed up, it to make the maximum return on your investment, make sure you research the

market properly. It's easy to spot trends if you watch what

The first rule is to buy something that As you can imagine, I was mightily will sit happily on your wall. Personally I couldn't live with having something that was not to my taste simply because it was

Don't be put off by what others say about

it, and be committed to sponsoring the artist, if you can afford it, by having more

than one painting. On the whole I'm a hoarder, and I hope that one day my children will have a very nice collection to hang on their walls.

But buying a fine art collection is a very exciting hobby that can be translated - if you so desire - into a terrific return on your

capital. It is a great pleasure to own a beautiful painting which day by day is increasing in value, providing you don't mind the emotional upset of getting rid of a piece you like to turn it into money.

In this country we are fortunate to have a richness of art that is like an untapped oil

well of creativity. There is a wealth of young talent around. and you can spend anything from a couple of hundred pounds to thousands. You don't have to be an expert: just put the

money into what you really like. If you're patient you should eventually see a return; even if it's only a few hundred

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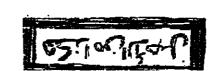
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money

Can pay, will pay, but on the right valuation, please

Council tax bills are due to rise next month, but will still be based on 1991 valuations, often well above current prices. Paul Gosling reports

sands of householders in London and the South-east waiting for their council tax bills will be paying too much - because the Government refuses to carry out a revaluation of homes. Council tax liability is based on April 1991 values - and since then house prices have fallen more dramatically in the Southeast than in the North. Not only would many

properties now he in a lower band if the valuations were done again, but local authorities in the Southeast would receive more government grant, reducing the overall funding burden on householders. While the Labour Party has criticised the current system, it too refuses to pledge itself to undertaking a revaluation or say what alternative to the council tax it would put in place in

undreds of thou- rise next month by an average of 6 per cent in Eng-land. The highest bills will be paid by owners of homes in Liverpool valued at more than £320,000. Their tax bill will be £2,012.92. The largest increase will be in Wellingborough - where the tax is up by 58 per cent, to £499.50 for an average property - although this reflects the previously very low tax. Several authorities in Scotland and Wales are raising taxes by more than 20 per cent, to pay for the replacement of two-tier councils with new unitary

But council tax bills are distorted by use of 1991 property values. Figures from Halifax Building Society show that while average property prices in London have dropped by 15 per cent over the last five years. the figure is 9 per cent for the North, while in Scotland they have actually overnment. risen on average by 8 per Council tax levels will cent. Within these large

authorities.



The Mersey pound: Come next month's rises, Liverpool will be the site of the highest council tax bills

regions there are much larger from variations, with prices falling in London's Docklands by 30 per cent, while increasing in Barnes by 40 per cent. Prices also rose quickly during Northern Ireland's ceasefire, but councils there are funded. by the even older rates system, using 1975 prices.

Local authorities admit it is unfair that they have to bill people on the basis of out-ofdate figures. Stephen Lord, finance assistant secretary at the Association of District Councils, says: "It is like basing income tax on what you carned five years ago."

The Association of Metroolitan Authorities has asked the Government to carry out pletely bonkers that the Government has no plans for a revaluation," argues Martin Pilgrim, finance under secretary at the AMA.

The Department of the Environment says a revaluation will not be carried out for the foreseeable future. The Labour Party argues that the council tax system is unfair. Frank Dobson, Labour's to an early revaluation of properties if it won the general election.

A revaluation would lead to redistribution of government grant to local authorities, paying more to the South-east and less to the North - and this could well involve a shift of funds away

Labour-supporting areas. Without a revaluation the anomalies are likely to grow worse There were almost a million appeals against property valuations when the council tax was introduced three years ago, and all but 3,000 of these have now been decided.

But new appeals can only be lodged if a property has changed hands within the last six months, or where property values have been affected by what is called "a change in material circumstances to the extent that a property would be placed in a different council tax band. The fall in the housing market since 1991

is not grounds for appeal. Properties can be revalued existing extension is demolished. Adaptations for a person with disabilities could cause a property to be revalued in either direction.

A new road, supermarket, factory, housing estate or sewage works near a home are likely to be successful grounds with insufficient bands to for an appeal. So too might be reflect variations in property a permanent change of flightprices. But a spokesman for path from an airport. Subsidence, particularly caused by environment spokesman, said mining, is another accepted Where properties are

upwardly revalued this only comes into effect when the home is next sold. Owners are not required to notify the valuation office of changes which increase a property's value, but if asked for details these must, by law, be provided.

Local valuation officers

there is a belated recognition of a past error rather than a change of circumstance.

In practice, however, they will do so, backdating them where the application is accepted. This is likely to lead to the local authority issuing a rebate, plus interest on the sum. There is a right of appeal, to a valuation tribunal, against a valuation officer's decision in the event of a change in circumstances. but not where a factor was previously ignored.

In one recent case in Boston, Lincolnshire, local surveyor Thomas Balderstone acted on behalf of a bungalow owner who had overlooked a clause in the deeds of the property which restricted its use to local farm labourers. The valuation officer has now revalued the property at twothirds of full market value.

While many homeowners use surveyors, estate agents or solicitors to represent them in requesting a revaluation, this is not necessary. Indeed, many surveyors decline to take on the cases. Mike Cowley, a surveyor based in Nuneaton, Warwickshire, said: "My advice is for people to have a charge them a reasonable fee it would not be worth it, as it would not save them any

Citizens' Advice Bureaux will assist people to prepare revaluation applications, and officers can be found in the telephone directory.

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In just over three months, a new share-settlement system will move into place on the stock market. Its impact will be revolutionary, and investors would be wise to be prepared. Fraser Gardiner investigates

ention Crest and most of us probably think of toothpaste. However, investors buying shares are set to hear a lot more about Crest, the new electronic system for settling payments for sales and purchases of shares.

Considerable changes in the share settlement system have been implemented since an electronic system called Taurus was abandoned in 1993. The old account-trading system, which divided the year into twoor three-week-long "accounts" at the end of which the net balances owing were paid, has been abandoned. It allowed plenty of time for private investors and trustees to deliver stock certificates to the market and settle accounts. But share deals are now completed on a rolling-settlement basis, allowing five business days to settle an account. Once Crest is established, the settlement period is likely to be further reduced to three days. This will make it even more difficult for investors dealing on an advisory basis who currently hold shares in their own names, and in particular for those not using a nominee service that provides an administrative role in delivering stocks into the Crest system.

So what are the likely consequences of Crest? Under Crest all share dealings will be "dematerialised". Put simply, much of the cumbersome movement of paper will be removed and it is expected that the majority of shares will be registered electronically. Those who wish to hold certificates may continue to do so, but if a holding is sold the stockbroker handling the sale must dematerialise the stock in order to deliver it electronically to the market through the Crest system, adding to costs.

Crest will operate typically through stockbrokers and banks, which will be members of Crest and may also provide a nominee service. The cost of this service will vary, but in many cases may be provided free of charge by stockbrokers. Share deals will be settled electronically, with title being confirmed by regular statements from the investor's Crest member, in much the same way as bank customers receive statements showing movements and closing balances in their bank accounts.

Many brokers will already be encouraging clients to use a nominee service as it resolves any problems relating to delivery and enables a smooth transition when Crest's new electronic dealing system starts White.



ing place should force others to review their current arrangements. A key factor will be the cost of dealing. Investors can, at a price, continue holding on to share certificates; alternatively they may be able to deal more quickly and cheaply through Crest members. Further protection is provided by stockbrokers regulated by the Securities &

Futures Authority. Crest will have a large impact on investors and the financial services industry alike. It is a similar change to that which took place in the banking world with the demise of the pass-book. With the computerisation of settlement systems it will become increasingly difficult to deal using share certificates, so investors should review their options. There has never been a better time for investors to examine their position and consider how effective this will be

Fraser Gardiner is a director of Bell, Lawrie

- Ability to dematerialise certificate
- and deliver stocks into Crest Dividends can be mandated to investor/bank or collected by
- Disadvantages Shares held by a third party -

Stockbrokers regulated by the SFA

- possible delay if changing advisers Un-designated Nominee Service investor has some say Advantages:
- Nominee poots client holding Ability to dematerialise certificate and deliver stocks into Crest
- Dividends collected by nominer

- No direct evidence of ownership Shares held by a third party possible delay if changing advisers
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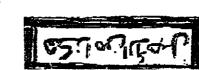
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CINEMA

Nightmare Before Christmas? Your kids will Macdonald directs. Royal Court, SW1 love it, but you'll love it more.

Edinburgh's junkie underbelly.

Ryan Gilbey

THEATRE

Toy Story (above) The first completely com- | Harry and Me (above) Sheila Hancock stars outer-generated animation feature and the in the latest comedy by Nigel Williams about best modern fairy-tale since Tim Burton's The | the madness that is the TV chat show. James

Watch My Lips Nigel Charnock writes and Trainspotting Danny Boyle's kinetic take on directs a quartet of performers celebrating lust, Irvine Welsh's novel has the kick of good | desire and omniverous sexuality. Bold stuff and speed: it's a breathless whirlwind tour of definitely not for the prudish. Drill Hall, W1 Twelve Angry Men Sidney Lumet turned this Heat The leanest of plots – a cop (Al Pacino) engrossing backstage courtroom drama into hunts a hood (Robert De Niro), yet this is a gripping film. Harold Pinter returns it to the a masterly work which confirms Michael stage in this West End-bound production.

Mann's status as America's premiere auteur. Theatre Royal, Bristol

David Benedict

EXHIBITIONS

Symbols for 51 in 1951, painters, sculptors and designers were commissioned to produce pieces to characterise the brave new world. Here is work. by Moore, Epstein, Chadwick and the Skylon. Royal Festival Hall, SE1; to 21 Apr. ...

Spelibound Six artists and four filmmakers were asked to examine the crossover between fine art hand cinema - an inspired move in which works by Hirst, Rego, Paolozzi and Greenaway are roost notable. Hayward Gallery, London SE1; to 6 May Cézanne (above) The final room, with the Large Bathers from Philadelphia, is one of the all-time epiphanies of gallery-going. Tate, SW1; to 28 Apr

POP

critics' choice



ELASSICAL

The Magnetic Fields (above) Thoughtful pop with soft legicone inelodies. New album Get Lost is a winner, Water Rats, London NW I, 25 Mar. Cast Liverpoof's back to basics javoued sons get sweaty with their langlesome songs. Present hit "Waterway" is more upbear than their songs of the mistral record straight with "Sales Fig." The Best Maria Ray of the Color of the mistral record straight with "Sales Fig." The Best Maria Ray of the Color of the mistral record straight with "Sales Fig." The Best Maria Ray of the M

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2000年 1988年2月1日 - 1982年 日本中華中華日本

Arts and entertainment listings

FILM

WEST END PRODUCT LATE And A STATE OF THE PRODUCT OF THE PRO

 ■ BRAYENEART (15) Mcl Gibson directs and dark Caller & Beet Find 12.35, 4.10, 7.45 © ASSIRD (18) Marin Source of Shock at Las-Veges stars Robert Dr. Nito Empire Lee Sq 12/20, 415-840, 11-35 (Satt. Toxader) MoW Set 11 attant 3/20-7/20, 11-10, Sun 12/21/21 No. 10

[2] 27 (2008.)0 In CREMORE (15) French-Language adapta-tion of a Ruth Pandell thriller, Harmonian MCM, 215 5 20, 8 25 Model Susse Confer 120, 330, 517 (a.2) Toderland Court Read MCM, 150, 425, 700, 835 PROBLEM Victories, the about heyeld-drown tens. Ma Monte Centre 1250-520-535-530

5.55 × 20 ● BESPERIOD (18) Western homage starting Antonio Bandera. Wiener West End 200.

● BEVIL IN A BLUE DRESS (15) A redund int Sectoral accepts a stranger's after of Plantage St MCFM 1.25 5.55, 6.25, 8.45 ■ FARNER OF THE BRIDE II (197) Storry Martin reprise his barte fed talber role. Trocalling Mr 34 740 (20)

MOST Chromo-THE FLOWER OF MY SEEREI (15) Almodovar continues me theme of a trazzled woman surrounded by bedeering relatives, Clorgon Phoenic 1,2015at 15-48, ed5, 8,30 ■ FRENCH TRIST (GAZON MAUDIST (18) Farce

■ FIRECH TWEST (6.2208 MAJDRI 1.18) Farce about a phylandaring hasband, a dissatisfied with and ber giftfrend Paccaldh 36.5M 1.50, 545, 6.10, 8.30, Fart C. Rd 36.7M 1.50, 4.30, 6.55, 9.22; Others, Memmune 5.20, 6.00, 8.40 GET SHORTY (15) John Travolin stars as a loan shark wito becomes unwised in the film business. Empire Larc Sq. 1.15, 7.45, 6.15, 8.45, 11.20, fact, 2.00, 1.00, fact, 3.45, 6.15, 9.10, fact, along Majdri 1.20, 1.25, 6.50, 9.10, fact, along Majdri 1.20, 1.20, 6.00, 6. GOLDSIEVE (12) The latest James Bond yarr. Alexer Membrane 215 5 40, 820 LA HARRE (15) Each string offinic toerlage ten-tuers. Planting of MoJM 1.50, 400, 6,30, 8,50. ● HEAT (15) At Pagino and Pattern De Nino m Maior compost repath thriller. In-caden: Mt/M (2.40.4.40, 5.2), Warner Hos-Dul (10) 5.25, 4.40, 7.00, 8.20, 10.30, 11.50.

THE HORSEBAN ON THE ROOF (15) Epic 19th century adventure starring Juliette Banoche. The Minerial 3 (9) 6 (0), 3 (9) ÆFFREY (18) Romantic comedy about a none gav man and live in the *** Souther-ter, Ar. M. M. (2), 555, 550, 11,10 (Sat) • IBANII (PC) Pobri Williams become

● LEAVING LAS VERES (18) Novales Cage as an alcoholic Hiermarker MGM 140, 400 e.25, 8.59 Mt M Succe Centre 140, 440, 6.25, 8.50 Barner West End 315, 5.50, 8.50 11.15

● AUTHLE PROCESS (1/1) Adaptation of the Frances Hodgeon Burrett children's story Tropolom MoVI 2.10, 2.20, 4.25, Blance 10, 7 Eul. (206, 2.10, 4.20) ● LOCH NELS (PG) (Fed Diarson star), Warner

LES INSERBLES (12) Adaptation of Victor
 Hardy descriptions to Mod State Contra description and the Mo

m no president in Citier Stone's hope. The callery Mr. M. (20), 4 (0, 8 (9) Otlean Har-run's Set 12 - 5, 438, 8 48, 8un 1,45, 7.25 $32m\sigma B_0 + Er/(2.1914) 0.8 10, 10.20$ ● SHELD (11) Lowrence Fishburne in the tion to be thank to Memorine 245, 545 × 30; the coor there is a 5.50 m 20.

● R PESTRO 1.7 (A proming scale help sear material the hoart Gate for the Hal-nur 2.2) (Panellin & Mo M 2.2) 3.25 (c. th scale Gate Son, 1) (Mo M 2.2) 3.25 (c. th

 REGISTROS RIPCRIS (Prin Some of naturalists and naturalists on the indepolity Prince 2 (5 + 2.5 + 4.5 + 5.5) • RESTURBITION (15) Purham 1 Symbol Journal as a physician in the count of Rang Charles III and the Rev (Dia 1245, 325, 605, 545) \$48884 (PG) Remake to the Yough size.
 Face 12 45 (\$25, 614) \$45.

An independent Barbara Crama (1911) (Son Area - Prof. Found Chains 224) 521 535 Carrier Marian 2181 538 Association (1

STRENGE DATS (18) Con the count of the million name of the million ● THE SWAN PROMIESS (Co. Ammuned version 6 1 5 (10) [1] 4 (10 至 50 至)

of Na*un Lake*, with the voices of John Classe and Jack Polones, *Barbican Cinema*

 TOY STORY (P13) Computer summated extra © 107 51087 (P.1) Computer animated extra-agance about a boy's two ordersons that are damped in favour of a new-langued robot. Burbacon Cinema 210, 4305, 5, 5, 5, 6 (Mean Les by 12-3), 315, 550, 6, 50 (11,0) (San), (Mean Markle, 480, 11,5, 3, 45, 6, 15, 8, 45

RIMSPOTTING (18) Adaptation of Invite Welsh's smash-hit novel about drugs, Hav-market WEM 120, 245 to 10, 849 Eutosham CTR J MGM 210, 425 7 10, 9 40; Havner West End 1250, 310, 510 7 20, 9 40, 1245am ● BUSSES GAZE (PG) Starring Harvey Ken-tel, Renew 1235 4.01, 7.35

BROCKGROOMD (15) Surreal history of Yugoslavia. Lumiere 12:55, 4:20, 7:45 ● THE BSBAL SBSPECTS (18) Toronous shriller Punior Street MCFM 1:25, 3:30, 6:20, 8:45; Worker West End (Lundmeb)

● WATTING TO EXPLEE (15) A group of women friends berate the last of eligible men in Physics, Arizona. Towarkers MGM Sat 12midlight: Warner West End 1.20, p. 45 ● WITHALL & 1 (15) Cult British contedy. Par adds MiTM 130, 345, 6 (0, 830)

pine 01429-915033; Othern West End 930 5252: Place 0290-880-90; Repoin 837-8402;

REPERTORY CINEMAS

Madame Boyan (1518 Nov Realms The Mail SWI (0171-930 3647) Realms Of The Series - Fearest Of New Japanese Cinema Plante for details The Most Terrible Time In My Lale Sat, Sun 9 / Sprin

The Celluloid Closet Sart Join She Dothe Him Wrong Sar 2 Julyan Sale Sart Join Gay Cuba, Jareena Portrait Of A Highe Sar 4 Julyan Memory And Desare Sart 6 Julyan The Mahafie's Tale Sart 6 Silyan Chokured Dreams Sart 8 Silyan Red Ribbion Blaes Sar 8 Julyan Majar 6 Sart Julyan Tim Non Angal 1993 Sart Join Drama Queens Sart 2 Julyan Genderama San Jujan Unibedi Lada - Men Lowing Men In Bruish Comedy Sart 4 Julyan Sweet Sugar Bomb San 6 Julyan (Sart 4 Julyan Sart Sart 6 Sart 1993) Sart 6 Sart 1893 Sart 1894 Sart 1894 Sart 1894 Sart 1894 Couple Sart 8 Julyan 8 Salyan Katach Couple Sart 8 Julyan 87 South Bank SE (1017) 1923 2723

PRINCE CHIRLES Lencester Place WC2 (017)-

THEATRE

THE CHANGING BOOM

PERMAND opposite Hampstead Tube NW3 (0171-435 1525)
The Remains Of The Day (1/1) Su 1.30pm, 6 15pm + Carrington (1813-55pm, 8.40pm 8 1.21(8) Sun 1 Hym + Julier Of The Spirits (15) 3 55pm The Wanderer (PG) Sun 6.25pm

LONDON LESBIAN & GAY FILM FESTIVAL NATIONAL

NPT South Bank SE [(017)-928 (272) Oueen Christina (PG) Sat (28)pm Hallelu-jah Tin A Bum Sat (28)pm

437 81811

Lining In Obission (15) San [2,30]om Land & Freedom (15) San 2,45pm The American President (15) San 2,45pm Checkers (18) San 7,45pm To Die For (15) San 10,30pm City Of Lost Children (15) San 13,50pm The Madrice (16) San 15,50pm The Madrice (16) San 6,50pm The Actomic Col Ring George (197) San 6,50pm The Adventures Of Prisalla, Queen Of The Chemit (15) San 8,45pm

BYEKBE Crosp Read Wo (1)(81-741-2255)
Strain, Storm, 181-8at Jpm New Italian Shorts
(Det 3at open Repubblica Novara (181-8at
Aligen Peep on To Punico (U) San 2m +
Patter Panetali (17pm Love Burns) (181-8at
1-8apo - L'Amore Molasto (18) San 7-8apm

WEST END CHOICE Manusco — [1] Sun. [3] Two. [4] West. [5]: Thu. [6] En [7] Sut.

| Option of the state of the st

8800) & Pice Circ. Mon-Sai 7.45, [4][7] 5 00, ends 30 Apr. £10-£2u. ROYAL MATIONAL THEATRE

DB DOSS

Raw Lap spectacle from Olivier Awardwinning chareographer Dem Perry.

Lymc Shaftesbury Awarus, Wi 10171-494

\$1951 O Proc Circ. Mor-Thu \$300. Fri & Sat

630 & \$45. ends & June, £5.£22.50. manur
One-time Resco wurker Paul Keating stars
alongside Kun Wilde in Pete Townshend's his
Broatway musical.
Stuffnetwor Stathesbury Avenue WC2
(1171-379-5399) ← Holborn/Tota Ct Rd
Mon-Sat 800, [4][7] 330, £10.50 €80.

Desert (15) Nov 8 45pm

15 Carrier Manager 14:

But First Life 17: 17: 18

SEPER Plan A sense of marrier stemp from the detection of the Marrier Land Stema Construction of the Marrier Stema Constr

HART MO ME Sheda Hannock in Nagel Williams's savage comedy about an alling chat show host. Repail Come Sheane Square, SWI 10171-750 17451 © Sleane Square, Men Sar 720(27 Mar. 7,00), [7] 330 (no mat today), ends 20 Apr. 25-118, cones available

Manches 0171 except where moved
Barbaan Crieria use 2001. Chelsen Crieria 531 3722. Curson Macfair 300 1720;
Curson Phoenix 300 1721; Curson Wes
End 300 1722; Empire Leie Sq. (2001-8000);
Gare Noting Hill 727 4003; Lamener 370
3014; Haymarkat MGM 830 1527; Panton
St. MGM 930 0031; Piccadilly, MGM 457
3501, Shafte-bury Are MGM 836 6270;
MGM Sons Centre 437 2006; Bull O. Rd
MGM 1030 0148; Trocaderio MGM 434 002;
The Mineria 300 1722; Odeon Haymarket
830 7007; Odeon Leie Sq. 920, 2322; Odeon
Martie Arch 01426-91430; Odeon Mezzaping 01426-91450; Odeon Mest End 930

967 1111) BR & Charing X. Tue-Frt A00, Sat \$ 30, 140715 00, 111-100, each 1 lune, 15-110. BEYOND THE WEST END

actained, brutally come fire play about three Dublin house painters. Mon-Fin 7.50pm (25 Mar. 7mm), Sa 5.30pm & 8.30pm, ends 5 June. £8.59-£15, conc. available.
Great Newport Street, WCZ 10171-556 2132cc 741 9999) & Leicester Square. Server it the Daniel Ektender's debut play

explores the rows of racial harred among group of East Lundon youth Last performed Spring Sym. 8/51 cented to Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (0/81-743) 33831 © Shepherds Bush. THE ROOM, ORANGE TREE PUR

Note Than Esses Drama exploring the strong-femasies of a woman observed by a gay man The-Thu & Sat 7 45pm, Firs 15pm, ends 14

Mon-Sai 8.00, [7] 3.00, £9.50-£25.

Stark but e teiung adaptation of leving

Brothers of the Brask January Muzphy's

Whitehall Whitehall SW1 (0) 71,369 1735.cc

TAP DOSS

THEATHER ROYAL STRATFORD EAST The Soldier's Song Broan James Ry Art's grotty but humorous Northern Irrah thraller. Mon-sar Sprin, mai 21 Mar. Zprin ends 17 Apr. 22-175 cores, positions.

Gerry Raulics Square, E15 (0181-534 (0310) BR-O Strattord he Misantiruge Ken Stott hours Lindson

successaring can from feath Linds.)
Poster's production of Martin Comp stew
version of Mohere's saire. Last parts today
2.50 per & 7.30 per £14, conts &
The Cut, SE1 0171-928 £50.31 BR &
Waterlan. AROUND THE COUNTRY

Bristol MEDITER ROYAL
Technology Man Transibly West in Harried
Printer's receival of Regionald Review Fittees
countries on drama, Man-West 7.5 bpm. Transact Trans. See 2.5 bpm. ends 5.4 pm.
See 5.17.5 bpm. comb 5.4 days. CHRESTAL MEATRE
leigh New musual thriller starring Dave
Willets as the Donor with a malevolent
atter-ego, Mon-Sai 7-5pm, mats Thu & Sai.
2.30pm, ends 15 Apr. (9:50-214-50, codes
available High Street (1)(8)-460 (677)

MIDEAL HISEMO
Martin Shaw and Arma Carteret in Peter
Hall's revival of his 1992 production.
Theare Royal Haymarket, SWI 10171-931 ipswich WOLSEYTHEATRE

Adam Bede George Elect's classic of late 16th century adapted by Geoffrey Beener. Tue-Fri 7 45pm, Sat 8pm, mars Wed 2.30pm, Sat 4pm, ends 30 Mar £7.50-£11.75, cross wailable. Crvk Drive (01475-253725) Plymouth

Obiter

Mether Corrage And Her Critician Disma Rigg in

Doubl Hanc's new versum of Brecht's tale of
survival. Today 200 & 7.15.

Lyttekor:
Many Sharif Isabelle Huppert and Anna

Massey star in Schiller's Instorical drama.

Today 2.15 & 7.30. DENIEN THEATRE, THEATRE ROYAL The Ning of Prosests North Durke's Cournests swashbuckling sum of snugglers and supwrecks. Tee-Sat, 7.45pm, mar 28 Mar, 1.45pm ends 30 Mar, 15-27, cones £3-24-50. THEATHE ROYAL

Contentor:
Stanley Antomy Sher as the great English
artes Stanley Spencer in Pain Gerns' por-trait. Tedas 1,30 & 7,30.
Olivier & Lyttelion: £7.50.422,50. Cottesloe
£10-£1430. Day sents from filtum. South
Bank (0171-928, 2252) BR-9-Wateriloo. Toking New Niographical play by award-winning writer James Goldman. Mon-Sal 7,30pm, mars The & Sat 2,30pm, ends 30 Mar. 55,50-£16,50, cones £5-53,50. Royal Parade (0) 752-267,222) Salisbury Michael Ball and Maria Fredman in Stephen Sondham and James Lapine's award-winning

Tess of the S'Utbervilles Tay a Woodward in Colon reases). Queen Shattesbury Avenue, W1 (017) 494 559kec 544 4444) & Pac Circ. Mon-Sat 7 45 (26 Mar. 7,00), [4][7] 3 (0, £13.50-£30, ses as as a meaning tray work and in countries and Mark Clements' new adaptation of Hardy's novel Mon-Wed 7.50pm, Thu-Sat Apr., mats. Su 4pm, 2s Mar. 4 Apr., 2 40pm, ends 6 Apr. 2 65 24, cone. available
The Maltings (01722-52)(833) SKIUGHT
Michael Gambon and Las Williams in David Hare's acclaimed study of a tense reintion.

Windham's Charing Crees Ruad, WC2
(0171-369 1736/cc 867 11111 © Leic Sq. Stratford-upon-Ayon

ROYAL SHARESPEARE THEATRE Transit Might Lan Judge Coursion of Shakespeare's romantic comedy. Mon-Sai 7.30nm. mais Wed & Sai 1.30pm, ends 10

ersula (01730-205623) **EXHIBITIONS**

Lond<u>on</u> BARROLA ART CALLERY
Baghiler, Orester of the Ballets Russer, Echibition exploring the artistic and cellural achievements relating to Daughtler, Mon.
West-Sai, Hearn-6, 45pm, Tae, 118m-5, 45pm.

HAVINARD GALLERY Spellbound, Art & Film The themse explored by Spelicente, art e rose 124 conservational Gordon.
Paolozza, Hust. Greenaway and Gordon. Mon-San (Oam-tyer) until Spin Tue & Wed), ends 6 May 15, c. may £3,50, Belwedere Road, SE1 (0171-960-4342) BR. ⊕ Waterleo.

NSTIONAL GALLERY Masterpaces from the Dona Pagadain Gallery Includes Velacquez, Cornact and Raphael, Mon-Sat Hum-tipm, San Sym-tipm, ends 19 May, Iron, Trafalgar Square, WC2 (0)71-839 3321) & Charmig Cross.

ROTAL ACADEMY OF ARTS
Frederic Leighton 1830-1836 Magor show (or historical Victorium peinter Mon-Sun (Dam-topm, ends 2! Apr 15.50, cores 25.50. Burlington House, Precadilly, W. (017) 429 7438 | © Precadilly Circus.

SMITER GRUSH* Hung Jeannais Pert 2 Jacqueline Humphries, Richard Prince, Tory Oursler, Charles Ray-and Kilo Sroth, Tha-Sun Lincon-opin, ends 12 May, Thu free, Fr-Sun E. 59, Boundary Rd 10171-624 \$250 BR: Sth Hampton, of

SERPENTINE CALLERY ear Michel Bassmart Survey of the complete rate

images, Mondrey (Bart-Opin, 1995; 2) Apr. Iron Kensengton Gardens, WI (0) 71-402 6075) & Swith Kensengton. TATE GULLERY Countries (proportion) supply with winduratings and Toward reces the n-Sun Diam-5.9 year only D. Apr. 57. (1922) 4. Millians, SW1 (1973) 4.7 (1994) • Pimbar

WMITECHAPELART GALLERY Maria and a contract of the sailencome diligitationers. The Sam 17 and 5 pm. (Wed with 5 pm.), and 5 May free. Whitedupe Het Street Et (171-522 Dong - Alder's East

Oxford HISSEM OF MODERS ART
The Dendor's tipe Dendorps and photographs
to European from makers. The Sact Warn
type (The Latt 1976) (Sact Agreements on the 14
Apr. 2019) cross a (30) from Weel Hann-Ippe.
The Epit Open Sact Benefit (Sact Agreements).

Basingstoke ___ OR LAN CLARY AT THE ASSC. **Hastings** RELIANCEARY AT WHITE 2002 THEATRE.

COMEDY

London COMEDY STORE COMENT STORE
Helen Ausen, Somon Bligh, Tim Clark,
Milton Jones & Sean Percival.
Toongha Spin & Tanddinghi, Haymarket
House, Overadon Stores, SW1 (01426914435) & Lenesser Square, EID.

ENGLEURS BATTERSEA RMELEUS SMITTSEL
Mickey Flutton MCs for Simon Bligh, Keith
Dover, Dylan Moran & Man Welcome.
Tonight 7, 15pm & 11,15pm, Laveader
Gardens, SWI1 (p)71-42-3766) BR:
Clapham Junction, £10, cones £7. LEE ESPASS AT APOLLO THEATRE

In postmodern Norman versions Aven Tomach Span & 8 Topan, Shaftesbury Aven Wil (0171–194 5070) & Procadilly Circus. NACOERIA PROBLEMS DI SCIENCE AT DILCOMSRURY

Meane, Improv from Chrago. Truight topm & A.Mom. Gurdon Street, WC I (0171-388 8023) BR:

Buston, IX, comes In. PRESENT STORY CHARLES AND PROPERTY OF THE PROP

COMENT SIDE PLATERS
Simon Clayton, Neil Meillarkey, Caroline
Quentin, Lee Simpson, Jun Sweeney &
Richard Vranch,
Sun Spin, Haymarket House, Oxendon
Street, SW1 (01426-914455) & Leicester
Square, E9. DOMBIA INCPHIATES RELEGIED BY AT DEBUE OF YORK'S THEATRE

Barbed comic accompanied by the man with the funniest Starsky & Hutch gag in ine west.
Sun opm & Spm, St Martin's Lane. WC2.
(0171-8% 5122 or \$30 9877) ← Leicester
Square, Charing Cross. £6-£10.

DANCE

Crawley HE Biffill
Loadon Gity Ballet: Cindoralla Proficilice's score
re-choreographical by Matthew Hart. Today
2-30pm (Miller: Els.). Longolt 7-30pm
(Sanig'van Fleteren) £13,50-£16,50, concs
available.

Hawth Assence (01293-553636) London Deans's new full-length ballet to a Tehnakovsky seure Today 2 Mpm & 7 Mpm. £4-£35, cones available.

St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-6328300) 2115#F7831802 SMIES WELLS
Inequis Entre. Supp Passion Modern flamenco
with Cortes, Marco Berriel and Cristobal
Reves, Sun 7.50pm. 57.59-EN.
Roschery, Avenue, ECI (0171-278.8916-713
n070) © Angel.

Norwich | THEATRE ROYAL Advantures in Markon Pictures: Swam Laka Relatively's score re-choragraphed by Manhew Boarne, Eurght, phose for details. Theatre Street (01603-630000)

Swansea BAND THEXTEE

Ranbert Dance Company Stabut Maner, Axioma Peris-Mort and Roccier, Tampht T. Mpm. £4.50-£12.50, cones readable. Singleton Street (017/2-478715)

CLASSICAL <u>London</u> BARBOUN BALL
Member of the Senthelt Chamber Orchestra/Westrop
Bruckner Nivette and 2nd Mars with
Monar's KNN Wind Serrestade. Sun 7.54pm.
55-415.
Harbitian Centre, ECC (0) 71-656 9301)

© Barbeam Metorgatic.

en masse.

ST 19887.
Custon for Young Musicans Including Mathias?
Lear Sower and Lambert's Reviewede.
Foreigh 7-20pm 546 65.
Delwich Ching South Handel's Daid Permanas
with Pared Smill's Requestre, Sum 7-30pm 54
67-54. & 27-50. Smith Square, SW1 (0171-277 (06))

OFFER SEASON BALL
Till Felhor The persect in Mozart and Reible
omatas Sun 3,5 pm. 65-115
South Rank Contro. SE; 00/31/660/4242;
BRSO Waterloo. ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

Orchestra in Boch's St Mathew Posion. Sun 11 am. E7-E50. In Buring with Lesby Garrati The sraprano is joined by the Landon Philharmonic. Sun 7.30pm. (11:50-E28.

OPERA

mh Bank Centre, SE1 (0171-460 4342)

Brighton HEATRE ROTAL: ENGLISH TO Resisto Stephen Medicalf directs Verdi's midde-period drama. Tonight 7,30pm. £7,50-£18,50. New Road (M1273-338488)

la Transta A revival for Richard Eyre's Royal Opera production, here conducted by Carlo Rusa with Andrea Rost as Violetta. 2 with Amurea recording to 7. Topen E7-4140 agin 7. Topen E7-4140 agan Garden, WC2 (0171-304-400 a)

O Coverni Guardera.

Cambridge Mile & The lecturies Genesis man Mike Ratherford's successful AGR side-project. Com Eurhang: Wheeler Street (0) 223-35788(1) Tought & Sun, 7,30pm, phone for real-shalling.

enstreem Dance-pop (earn with a number o The Junction Chilton Road (01223-412600) Sun 7pm, £6-£7. Folkestone

Sary Rasson Eightness synth star Frack in the charts with the TV ad-assisted re-release of the New Wave classe Cars.

Lass Cliff Half The Leas (01303-253193)

Toroicht Sen. 511 opight Spm, £11.

<u>Gloucester</u> fresh pop sound. Guildhall Aris Centre (01452-505189) Tonight 8:30pm, £5-£5-50.

Gary Human See Fellerstone. Askete Charing Core Read WC2 (017):454 (9015) © Tonomham Court Read. Sun 7pm. ()4.
Substitution Severatures discovered group.
Substitution Williams Substitution Williams Substitution Williams Substitution Williams Substitution Williams Substitution Substit Cartage Butch Vig's slock industrial pop

Sun 7pm, 1950.

But Retro rock from the Scoute hitmakers.

The Fronto Highgate Read NW5 (0171-344
(U44) BR: Chemish Lown, Trought & Son. 7pm, £8.50. The Garage Highbury Corner N5 (0171-607) INISEC 144 (1944) & Highbury & Islington. Parish: Sep. 65

outlis. Broton Academy Stockwell Road SW9

10171-024 9949) BR. @ Brisson.

Ronight Som, £5. Hassan Brigh North African and Arab music from the Morroccan multi-instrumentalist. Purcel Record South Bank Centre SE1 (0171-96) 4242) BR-O Waterlow Tomight 7.30pm, £10.

7.30pm, £10.

7.30pm £11 hards Sell-hare gig for the West Country, accusing fulk thio.

Royal Albert Half Rensington Gore SW7.

(1871-598-521)— 6 High Street Kensingto Sun 6.45pm. £13-£17. MAC, Otherste Kass, Sean Wagners, Besz, Europton Province's Trust beneath with a boost of swingrithness into tenent with a thost of swing-beat and propacts. Stephend's Bush Green W.E. (1981—1917-1914) — Shephend's Bush, Winghi Ton, ES. Im Saltars, Glammeck from concrute non-city hand of Ping FC.
Underworld Wield: End Camden High
Street NW1 (0171-452 1932) & Caraden
Town, Tomphi 7 Julius, In.

The Binetona Gentie Britpoppers currently copying a big bit with their Stight Return cayving 1 bg in with this stage, but the single. University of London Union Males Street W.C.; (0171-325-581) & Goodge Street. Timplet bon, photo: for availability, latter flands Funds and the Brit-winning Hendra societie.

Brendre, there Empire Way (1181-900-1254) & Wentley Park.

Taractic 3 Paris 144 Postypridd

Smor Furry Animals Welsh-language indic psychoteba. Muu. Int Court Gellewisted Road (M443-485934) Tought Spin, 14, comes £5.5th Reading Eastin Platformanner/lightest In a single large-cale work. Mather with Symptoms Tomphi (34pm, 15, 24). Bach Charliff Caches With the English Chamber Spin, 15, 50.

JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK ETC

Spm, £10. Cambridge

64 Septi-Horse See Brighton.
The Junction Clifton Road (01223-412600) Rendeht 7pm, E9, adv £8, NUS £/..

ist leads the freakshow.

IC4 The Mail SW1 (0171-930 3647)

O Sohin Watson Art Blakey and George Cole-BODD HEADER AND THE STREET STR

£10.
Readside Picaic ECM-ish fusion quartet.
Picas Express Dean Street W1 (1971-139
972) & Tottenham Court Road. Torught Sonn. £10.50. Eddie Harris with Hilds Yeold's helledison Frank experimentalist.
The Rhythmic Chapel Market N1 (0171-713
585⁴) O Angel, Emishn & Sun, Spin, £12,

LITERATURE

Canterbury · Knught 7, Open, £7.50-£8.50. In Salieurity Talk and signing copies of his book Louis MacNiece. none's (01227-456345) San 7pm, free.

GOSPOT In Graning Of Innocest Cya Mastern-turned-author Cynthia Payne recounts tales from author Cyntina Payne ressumes uses usen.

Thornguie Halls Bury Road (01705-528017)

To night 7. Alpm. 86.50.

Wie Sarting & Brian Patter An evening of stories and poems from the user popular Mille Harding and Liverpuol poet Brian Patten.

Thornguie Halls Bury Road (01705-528017)

Sum 7,300cm, £6,50. Sick Shorts Reading from his book Don't Pur-Your Finger In The Jelly, Nelly, Waterstone's Islangton Green N1 (0171-704

Beil Barlett & Lynno Riestas Reading from their broke Mr Cine & Mr Page and Hunsted House. Waterstone's Islangton Green VI (0171-704 Witterstone's Islington Green (v) (223) Endry Spin, froe.
Laws: Rands Readings from the author of Whate More With First.
Filth Mac Nasty's & The Whiteley Cafe.
Amwell Street EC1 (0171-619 2543/837 6067) Toxight 9pm. £3.

Physical Arts Center Lone Street (01752-** 660060) Today Spin, £3.50, cones £2.50.

Bournemouth
See let New Connection Activates, raffles and
other competitions all with a su-fi there,
Bournemouth University (0.1212-95889)
Today 1 30pm, £2.50, cones available. Cardiff Wang Ships A look at the historical and cul-tural background of these calling vessels. Welsh Industrial & Mantone Museum Bate.

EVENTS

Street (01222-481919) Ends 21 Apr. ph for details Chepstow
Decrease Readshow Australies and games beinging prehistoric does to lafe for children of all 2855.
Dill Hall Lower Church Street (01291-62581) Mon-Sun (1am-Som, ends 24-Apr., phone for details.
Chochrunt

Cheshtini
Action Nat Collector: Day A chance to we ware and collectable Action Men.
186/sey Hall Windmill Lane (01992-2866/32812) Sun Ham-lpin, £1. Craydon Grieg and Stravnsley.
Fabrield Concert Hall Park Lane (0181-688
9291) Today Ham, 44-65-50. London

55. under 54 free.

Santy Buy the Storigan Sule. A look at why the

18th century is called the Age Of Elegance
with speakers including Dan Cruftshank.

There Roseman and Graham Child.

Geffree Advenuer Kingeland Ref E2 (0171-739

9203) 40 Old. St. Today 10.30am 4.30pm.

255 including special Georgiest hasth.

Bertsian Draft Falt Hand made crafts including special Georgiest hasth. ing painted ceramics, hand made staps and

r colour paintings. gman Museum London Road SE23 1181-600 1872) BR: Forest Hill Son 11am-4pm, £1, comes 50p, under 12's free. Decerative Authors And Tentiles Fair Fair for intepecuative temperature and testing and are from decorators and designers.

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(1711-836 5459) © Fultarin Rd SW10
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Landon Marriet Hotel Grosvenor Square W1 (0171-4931232) Son 11am-5pm, £1. WI (0(71,4931.22) Sub 11am-5pm, £1.

\$21.86 Programme of events featuring science, engineering and bechnology.

National Manione Museum Rommer Rd SE10

(088) 858 4229 BE: Mare Hall Today &

Sun, 10am-5pm, £5.50, comes £4.50, child £3.

Landon international live Same Engineerat

galore with a chance to try dress in a swimming pool and an bissorical diving feature.

Obropia Hammersonith Rand W14 (0171
613 3344) 45 Earl's Court/Olympia, Reby

Sum-opin, Sun sum-opin, F. Lande E. Sul-Landen Delplan Print Fair Criginal prints sold direct to the public.

Right Academy of Arts Burilingson House, Focasility WI (0171-439 7438) @ Focasility. Ibday & Sun, 1 Lum-opin, £5, comes £250.

COMING UP Long Brantz Mar 23, 6.30pm, Wembley Arena, London na, Lordon Mari Bandir May 14, 7,30pm, Civic Hell, Wolverhaupton; May 15, 7,30pm, Corn Ex-change, Cambridge; May 17, 7,30pm, Bournemouth; May 18, 6,30pm, Cardiff In-ternational Arena, Cardiff

ld lang May 6, 7.30pm, Brighton Centre, Brighton, May 7, 7.30pm, Bournemouth; International Centre, Bournemouth; May 9-11, 6.30pm, Wembley Arena, London Sarry Massion Apr 5, 6, 20, 21; Wembley Are-na, London; Apr 8, 6,30pm, Cardiff Interna mar. Carr homa Arena. Caroni.
Johny Bubbs Sept 16. & 17, 6.45pm, Royal
Albert Hall, London: Sept 18, 7pm.
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Bust Laf Apr 1, 6.45pm, Westpoint Centre,
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an raceus; run to, 11, 25, 31, 13.0pm, westbley Arena, London
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Enchange, Cambridge
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Bries Springsters Apr 16, 17, 22, 27, 6,45pm, Royal Albert Hall, London: Apr 24 & 25, 7pm, Brisson Academy, London Ring Towns, Alten (8990-204060) Bournesonth International Course, Exerter Road, Bournesmouth (01/312-297/297) Brightin Centre, King's Road, Brighting (01273-202881) Brightin Academy, Stockwell, Road, London (0171-924 9999) Cardiff Informational Acress, Bostotown, Cardiff (01222-230130) Ciric Rall, London Road Gaildford (01483-Calston Hall, Colston Street, Bristol (D117-972 3686/cr 922 3663) Com Behauge, Wheeler Street Cambridge (01223-357851). (01223-357851). Curanal Culisana, St. Austrell (01726-814004) Parties Plymouth (01753-229922) Royal Mart Hall, Kensington Gurc, London (0171-589 8212) Supher's Bask Engire, Shopherd's Bush Green Loudon (0181-740 7474) Wankley Awa, Empire Way, Wembley (0181-900 1234)

Church services

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The Afternoof Shift Shift Af Aventy-some years any Abanteet Mann save away a source foot of land in Welles free with every album. Ioday, Frank Wiscon visits the site to find our Whether anybody actually task up the offer

Without: Walks Spin. C4 Lexicographer and slang dictionary compaler location Green argues. Use, far-ingen dictioning the mother torigue, stang levigorates and generates. No shi 19132. The Oscars Topin BBC1 (above). Entensive highlights of last nightlest followed jambone (8794). Fifth: Network (Signey Lumet 1976 US) 12 am BBC1. Petic Finch work a postfillinous Oscar for his nightlest in the TV archamtan some AWO! his portrayal of the TV anchorman gone AWOL In Lames's rather hysterical rant about the exis-of telly (927.95)

Venous 10am R4FM. Four programmes on the zoology and mythology of poisonous beastles, start-ing with spiders — why people are scared of them, which kinds we really ought to be scared of, plus how to cure arachnophobia.

A Royal Gala Spm ITV. Shirtey Bassey, Eric Clapton, Barry Manilow and the Chinese State Circus entertain the Prince of Wales to mark the tenth anniversary of his Youth Business Trust

Modern Times 9pm BBC2 (above). Contestants in Eric and Julia Mortey's latest dreamchild, a Mr. UK competition, reveal (nearly) all (519992). Newsnight 10.35pm #BC2. BBC Social Affairs Editor, Niall Dickson, on the fight against. drugs, US-style (375089). (8770).

Candide 7.30pm R3. The climax of the Fittes season is Bernstein's brilliant Voltairean operatia, in a specially recorded concert performance, with a cast including Bill Paterson and Ron Moody. All is for the best in this, the best of all possible worlds.

Reputations 9pm BBC2. Was Muhammad Ali (above) more than just a great boxer? We hear from those who claim his stance on civil rights, white America and the Vietnam War made himan important political role model (2003). Undercover Britain 9pm C4. Ticket touts are now illegal, thanks to the Taylor Report on the Hillsborough Disaster. Undercover football fan Gary Thompson finds them alive and pocketing

Pankhiraj 10am R4FM. Possibly the first magical realist soap - a family drama centred on three generations of Indian women whose lives are nfluenced by a kindly winged horse, the pankhiraj. Peculiar fun.

the cash at soccer grounds across the country

Film: Woman In a Dressing Gown U Lee Thompson 1957 UKI 2pm C4. Gnpping, rarely screened prototype kitchen-sink drama from cult director Thompson, with Yvonne Minchell superb as her 20-year-marriage to Anthony Quayle is threatened by a younger woman (421436). Doing Rude Things 9.30pm BBC2. Highly entertaining look back at the brief history of the British soft poin film - from naturist documentaries to Robin Askwith and Mary Millkington. Presented by Angus Deayton (above) (278252).

FRIDAY

African Harvest 9.45am R4. Alian Little presents four letters from South Africa; he starts by finking Burke and Hare and a conversation with a white woman in a sandwich shop the day before the first non-racial local elections.

Sunday television and radio

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Marie Committee Committee

7.30 Childrens BBC: Jim Henson's Animal Show. 7.55

Playdays. 8.15 This Multimedia Business (6770182). 8.30 Breakfast with Frest (S) (25908). 9.30 Season of Change (S) (9878298). 10.15 See Hear! (S) (520231).

10.45 Help Your Child with Reading (R) (S) (3153989). 11.00 Hidden Emplie (R) (S) (2960). * 11.30 My Brilliant Career. Lord Spens (R) (S) (8219). * 12.00 CountryFile (S) (50250).

12.30 On the Record (79076). *
1.30 EastEnders Omnibus (S) (2975237). *
2.55 Supply Christopher Columbus: The Discovery (John Glen 1992 US). Embarrassing 500th anniversary salute to the 15th-century explorer, played by the wooden George Corratace. Marton Brando looks in need of a health farm as Torquemada (21577453).

4.50 Cartoon (9539328). 4.55 The Clothes Show. Celebrates the 50th anniversary of the bikini (S) (2679540). 5.20 Lifetine. Gaby Roslin appeals on behalf of Camp Quality UK (S) (9546182). *

5.30 News, Weather (998989). 5.50 Local News (183521). 5.55 Songs of Praise. From Leicester (S) (185665), 6.30 Antiques Roadshow. Windermere (635521). * 7.15 Harnish Macbeth. See Preview, p32 (S)

(429057). * 8.05 Birds of a Feather (R) (S) (517279). *

8.35 News, Weather (565076). * 8.50 Pat and Margaret. Another chance to see Victoria Wood's funny and touching comedy drama in which Wood and Julie Watters play sisters separated since childhood. Wood, who works in a Lancashire service station, and Walters, now a big. soap star in America, are reunited in a Surprise.

Surprise-style TV show (R) (6383637). * 10.15 A Tribute to George Burns A repeat, which is what you get for living until you're 100 years old. This was the relatively young Burns (well, 95 to be precise) talking to Terry Wogan (R) (S) (925328).

10.55 Heart of the Matter. See Preview, p32 (S) (807618). 11.35 The Sky at Night (S) (865502). * 11.45 (Mike Hodges 1971 UK). Sadistic, fashionably fragmented gangster movie set in a stunningly photographed Newcastle, neatly scheduled in the wake of Our Friends in the North, Michael Caine is nicely impassive as Jack

Carter. (250182). * 1.35 Weather (8316962). To 1.40am.
REGIONS. Wales: 11.00pm Wales Playhouse. 11.30 Heart of the Matter. 12.10 The Sky at Night. 12.20 Film: Get Carter. 2.10 News; Weather.

BBC2

(5425540).

6.15 Open University: Pure Mathematics (9429163). 6.40 Maths Models (6639989). 7.05 Reconstruction of the Bankside Theatres (5462347). 7.30 Biological Barriers (4055415). 7.55 Venice and Antwerp - the Cities Compared (1590873). 8.20 Health and Disease in Zimbabwe (4385231). 8.45 How We Study

Children (6843250). 9.10 Children's BBC: Jackanory: The House at Pooh Comer. 9.25 Phantom 2040. 9.50 The All New Popeye Show. 10.05 | Hate This House, 10.30 Grange Hill 10.55 The Ant and Dec Show, 11.20

Short Change, 11.45 Star Trek. 12.35 Police Squad (R) (7705415). 1.00 Singled Out (82049989).

1.20 Holiday Outings. Le Canal du Midi (54906434). 1.30 Around Westminster (85434). 2.00 Elika Colt 45 (Edwin L Marin 1950 US). Undervalued western starring Randolph Scott as a salesman touring the Wild West promoting the new rapid-fire Colt 45 (7179540). 3.10 World Figure Skating Championships

3.55 Young Musicians 96 (3365796). 4.55 Rugby Special. Highlights of Pilkington Cup semi-finals: Bath v Gloucester, and London Irish v Leicester (S) (9313927).

5.55 Natural World. Manuel Hinge camped out in the Caimgorms for 12 months to capture this portrait of the area's winter wildlife (528347). * 6.45 Crufts 96. Pets win prizes (S) (638618).

7.30 Wheeler on America (S) (318502). 8.20 The Money Programme. How single-issue pressure groups are increasingly dictating the

environmental agenda to companies (168279). 9.00 Clive Anderson Is Our Man In... Calcutta (S) 9.40 The Travel Show Essential Guides (717163). *

10.00 Sales Empire of the Sun (Steven Spielberg1987 US). Spielberg never gets to the semi-hallucinatory heart of JG Ballard's novel about an English boy interned by the Japanese after the fall Bale, from the outside, rather than experiencing events through his eyes. The fall of Shanghai itself, though, is impressively handled (Then

Weatherview) (S) (54213908). 12.35 IN Nothing Lasts Forever (Tom Schiller 1984 US). Inventive and quirky feature from Saturday Night Live writer Schiller, with Zach Galligan as an artist in the New York of the future. Cameos come from Bill Murray and Dan Aykroyd (S) (8998458).

2.00 The Learning Zone. To 6.00am. REGIONS. Wates: 1.30pm Welsh Lobby. 4.55 Scrum 5. NI: 1.30pm Now You're Talking.

ITV/London

6.00 GMTV. 6.00 The Sunday Review. 6.30 News and Sport. 7.00 The Sunday Programme (41434). 8.00 Disney Club. With PJ and Duncan and Australian

dance troupe Tap Dogs (S) (36835908). * 10.15 Link. 21st anniversary edition of the programme for disabled people (S) (5405106). *

10.30 A Meditation (60328). * 11.30 Blessed Are They (S) (8476415). * 11.55 Chalke Talk (S) (7576521). 12.30 Crosstalk (80989).

1.00 News, Weather (48303434). * 1.10 Jonathan Dimbleby (\$) (6500873).

2.00 Smokey and the Bandit II (Hal Needham 1980 US). Trucker Burt Reynolds has to deliver a baby elephant to the Republican Convention in Texas. Only for those too hungover to operate their remote controls (402811).

3.40 The Munsters Today (S) (6697960). 4.10 London Tonight (4591989). * 4.20 News, Weather (4515569). *

4.30 The Match Live: Coca-Cola Cup Final. Aston Villa v Leeds United. Not the most attractive of fixtures for neutrals, but the big match atmosphere should loosen things up (pray for extra-time/penalties, because Jeremy Beadle will get shunted) (70546415).

7.15 You've Been Framed! (S) (546298). * 8.00 Coronation Street - the Cruise. Curly and Raquel's noneymoon, filmed on board the QE2. See Preview, p32 (S) (5927). * 9.00 Band of Gold. Prostitute drama. Rose travels to

Manchester to find her adopted daughter (S)

10.00 News, Weather (677231). * 10.15 Cracker. 2/3. Continuing the re-run of "The Big

Crunch". Fitz is proved right in his fears about Joanne (R) (674811). *

11.15 The New Statesman, Alan joins a moral crusade (R) (603163). 11.45 Theatreland. Sheridan Morley reviews London's

пеw plays (602434). 12.15 Steelyard Blues (Alan Myerson 1973 US). Smug, anti-establishment comedy about a team of misfits (Donald Sutherland, Jane Fonda, Peter Boyle) renovating an old World War II bomber

(819583). 2.00 Cue the Music. Scott Richardson in concert (1110670).

3.05 Ngaio Marsh: Colour Scheme. George Baker plays Inspector Alleyn, investigating the disappearance of a mysterious man from a rundown guest house (9180421).

4.35 Shift (R) (6272496).

5.30 News (35090). To 6.00am.

Channel 4

6.25 Trans World Sport (R) (7094705).
7.20 Take 5. With The Magic Roundabout, Bush Tails, Natalie, Ivor the Engine and Joggy Bear (S)

(5478908). 7.45 The Magic School Bus (81908). 8.15 Hong Kong Phooey (6763892). 8.30 Sturit Dawgs (6840163). 8.55 Biker Mice from Mars (6869298). 9.20 The Secret World of Alex Mack (S) (2083989).

9.50 Earthworm Jim (S) (5066076). 10.15 Saved by the Bell (1363989). * 10.40 Wise Up. Junior points of view (S) (4659873).

11.15 NBA Raw (502095). 12.15 Mission Impossible (866705). *
1.15 Board Stupid. Heliboarding in Canada. It had to happen (\$) (802347).

1.45 Football Italia. Depending on whether the players continue their strike or not (52003786). 4.00 Blue Wilderness. The Great Barrier Reef (908). *
4.30 A French Affair Concluding Malcolm Brinkworth's

repeat documentary about four families who have relocated to the Dordogne (R) (S) (19347). 5.30 Hollyoaks (R) (S) (144). * 6.00 Jules Verne's Rocket to the Moon (Don

Sharp 1967 UK). Creaky attempt to follow-up the success of Those Magnificent Men in Their Flying Machines has very little to do with Jules Verne. Burl Ives plays PT Barnum, hoping to regain his fortune by sending a man to the moon. Terry-Thomas and Lionel Jeffries are the rogues trying to scupper his plans (82823521).

7.40 Travelog Treks. Mongolia (S) (266873). * 8.00 Encounters: Mad Dogs and Englishmen. See

Preview, p32 (3569). 9.00 The Dambusters' Raid. Secret History film re-assessing the effectiveness of the legendary bombing raid of 16 May 1943. Did Barnes Wallis's bouncing bombs result merely in drowned livestock rather than crippling German industry?

10.00 Diamond Skulls (Nick Broomfield 1989 UK). Documentarist Broomfield tries his hand at tion as well-heeled Gabriel Byrne knocks down a young girl in his car, hushes it up, and then becomes obsessed with the idea that wife Amanada Donohoe is having an affair. A few

interesting ideas that don't go far (939927). * 11.40 She's Gotta Have It (Spike Lee 1986 US). See The Big Picture, p32 (421502). *
1.10 Cone of Us (Uri Barbash 1989 lsr). Perceptive study of Arab-Israeli relations has Sharon Alexander as a military policeman with

murder of an Arab leads him to his army

colleagues (570477). To 3.10am

conflicting loyalties when his investigation into the

ITV/Regions

JMRJJA As London except: 12.30pm Angla News and Business News (20989). 2.00 Countrywide (7811). 2.30 Her-tom (785). 3.00 World of Worder (6756927). 3.25 Her-tom (785). 3.00 World of Worder (6756927). 3.25 Her-tom (785). 1.25am Hotel Bobyton (9882651). 2.05am Late & Loud (21875-45). 3.05am Costo (18402951). 3.35am Shift (7418903). 4.30am TV Sport Classes (72106). 5.00-5.30am Funny Business (67309).

TYME TEES/YORKSHIRE TRIE TEST/ORISMRE
AS London except: 12.25pm Tyne: NewSweet
(5362873), torks The Powers That Be (5371521), 2.00
Cartoon Time (44876786), 2.05 Films Casey's Shadow (352453), 11.15 Tyne: The Powers That Be
(603163), torks: Cryes's Cacless (603163), 11.45 Films
Yanks (403368), 1.15am Films: Akire Intagum
(67311106), 4.35-5.30am Jobinder (6272496).

CANIGA.

As London except: 12,30pm Central Newsweek.

(7733293). 2.00 if's Your Shout (7811). 2.30 Our House.

(786). 3.00 Films Arbush at Tornshewk Gap (63-3279).

11.15 The Wer of the Works (670093). 4,35am Jobinder (5604187). 5.2-5.30am Asian Eye (8874545).

MY
As London except: 12.25pm West: Dogs with Dunbar (5362873). Wates: Weish Agenda (5362873): 2.00 West. HTV/South West Arts. Film Awards (7811). Wates: The Powers That Be (7811). 2.30 Special Report (786). 3.00 West: Gataways (5618): Wates: Privries from the Aftic (9618). 3.30 West: West Match Plus (8171417). Wates: Socies: Sunday (8171417). 11.15 Film: Coccon: The Return (685027766). 1.25am Hotes Babylon (9582651). 2.05am. Late. 8. Loud. (2187545). 3.05am. Coach. (18402361). 3.35am Sraft (7418674). 3.05am. TV Sport (25804776). 3.05am. TV Sport (25804776). 3.05am. Return (857266). Classics (72106), 5.00-5.30am Funny Business (57309)

As London except: 12.30pm Seven Days (5032618). 2.00 The Pier (30675873). 2.25 The Lettings (4488521). 2.30 The Mendian Match (7253338). 3.15 Highway to Heaven (87781?), 11.15-Film: Coccon. The Return (68927786), 1.25am Hotel Babwon (958265). 2.05am Late & Loud (2187545), 3.05am (Coch (2187645)), 3.05am (Coch (2187645)), 3.35am (V Sport Casses (72106), 5.00-5.30am Funny Business (57309)

As London except: 12.30pm Westcountry Update 7733299. 2.00 Wild West Country (7811). 2.30 High-way to Heaven (25095). 3.30 Westcountry Westcountry March (8171417). 11.15 Films Coccon. The Return (68927766). 1.25am Hotel Babyton (9582651). 2.05am Late & Loud (2187545). 3.05am Coach 18402361). 3.35am Shit (7418903). 4.30am IIV Spot Classics (72106). 5.005.30am Furny Busness (57303).

S4C As C4 except 6.25am Transworld Sport (709-1705), 7.20 fale: Five 15-778908). 9.20 The Secret World of Alex (2083989). 9.50 Terrytoons (5075724). 10.10 Hellycold (14365298). 1.15pm The Three Strongs (82057908). 1.35 Terrytoons (79413750). 1.45 Rap (+2186527). 2.10 Terrytoons (79413750). 1.45 Rap (+2186527). 2.10 Terrytoons (7957231). 3.10 Travelog Treis: (35-17637). 3.40 Film: Forbidden Planet (776163). 5.30 Pobol Y Cwm (27515502). 7.25 Dechrau Canu Dechrau (218076). 7.55 News (997327). 8.00 Su/Y Film (780873). 8.50 Bryn Terfel Hero (422999). 50 Sath Ar V 30 (7268171). 10.10 San Stefan (322279). 10.30 Film: Waterland (22745678). 12.15-2.35am Film: The Legend of Lylah Care (99571376).

Radio

Radio 1

(97.6-99.8Mbb FMB) 9/15-93882190
7.00am Claire Sturgess 10.00
Kevin Greening 2.00 Trevor Nelson's Rhythm Nation 4.00 UK Top
40 7.00 Mavericks: Bob Dylan See Choice, right 8.00 Radio 1 Rock Show 10.00 Andy Kershaw 12.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 4.00

Radio 2

(29-9) 200 FM) 7.00am Don Maclean 9.05 Michael Aspel 10.30 Hayes on Sunday
Aspel 10.30 Hayes on Sunday
12.00 Desmond Carrington 2.00
Benny Green 3.00 David Jacobs
4.00 Let's Dance 4.30 Sing Some thing Simple 5.00 Pam Ayres 7.00 Hugh Scully 8.30 Sunday Half Hour 9.00 Alan Keith 10.00 The Night Before Oscars 12.05 Steve Madden 3.00-6.00am Alex Lester

-4- ..

(90 2-92 (MPz PM) 7.00am Sacred and Profune. 8.55 Choice of Three. 9.00 Brian Kay's Sunday Morning. Includes Berlioz: Roman Cam Vaughan Williams: Vagabond; Roadside Fir. Handel: Let the Virginal Pieces by Gilles Famaby. Rigattl: Magnificat. Cristories: Idylle; Danse villageoise. Schu-mann: Konzenstuck in F. Op 86.

Debussy: Suite: Children's Corner

Pierne: Cydalise et le chevre-pied. Crusell: Diverlimento in C. Haydn: Mass No 14 in B flat. 12.15 Music Matters. 1.00 News; From the Proms 1995. 2.50 Spirit of the Age. Christopher Page, Hugh Keyle and Martin Neary examine the mysteries Quartet. Mozart: String Quartet

in G. Mendelssohn: String Quertet in D, Op 44 No 1. Dvorak: String Quartet in A, Op 105. - 5.45 The Sunday Feature: Hungary 1956. Hungarian-born British post George Szirtes's view of Budapest. 6.30 Clarinet and Plano. Richard Stoltzman (clarinet), Wayne Mar-shall (piano). Poulenc: Clarinet point for clarmet and tape. Gershin, arr Gach: Three Protudes.

7.30 The Sunday Play: The Tenth Man. Drama about a young

woman possessed by a soul in torment. See Choice, above. 9.10 Choir Works. Haydn: Mass No.

das dich bestricket.

unquiet spirits possessing nice Mavericks (7pm R1).

11.15-12.30am Record Review:

(92.4-94.6Milly FM; 198Milly (斯) . 974-94 Bills Hi. 1988tc IIII 6.10 Something Understood. 6.55 Weather. 7.00 News. 7.10 Sunday Papers. 7.15 On Your Farm. 7.40 Sunday. 8.50 The Week's Good Cause. 8.55 Weather. 9.00 News.

9.00 News. 9.10 Sunday Papers. 9.15 Letter from America. 9.30 Easter Paople. (5/6). 10.15 The Archers. 11.15 Mediumway

11.45 Books and Company. (4/8). 12.15 Desert Island Discs. With opera singer Kyra Vayne. 12.55 Weather. 1.00 The World This Weekend. 1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 Gardeners' Question Time.
2.30 The Classic Serial: All Things

Betray Thee by Gwyn Thomas. 3.30 Pick of the Week. 4.15 Analysis. A special discussion on the prospects for a permanent peace in Northern Ireland. 5.00 News; The Off Season. 5.30 Poetry Please! 5.50 Shipping Forecast.

6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.30 in Business. 7.00 Children's BBC Radio 4: Travelling Light by Shaun Prendergast. 7.30 Opinion. (5/5). 8.00 (FM) The Natural History Pro-

8.00 (LW) Open University God's Houses, 8.30 The Improbable Reincarnation of Leonardo da -Vinci. 9.00 American Conversa-tions: Gloria Steinem. 9.20 The Loss of British Power, 9.40 Talking about the Enlightenment. 8.30 (FM) Working History. (2/6). 9.00 (FM) Fourth Column Revisited. 9.30 (FM) Costing the Earth. The problem of congested cities. 9.59 Weather.

Choice

Maverick author Paddy Chayefsky is commemorated in The Tenth Man (7.30pm R3), a 1959 play about Jewish girls in New York; and his royal Bobness (Dylan, that is, left) is celebrated in the last of Mark Radcliffe's re-run survey of musical

10.15 Medicine Now. 10.45 The Disunitied Kingdom. 11.15 In Committee. 11.45 Seeds of Faith.

12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Story: Soul Mates

by Jane Gardam. 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00am As World Service.

K3010 3
(93), 909/it IMV)
6.05am Straight Up. 6.30 Brian
Hayes at Breakfast 9.05 Sunday
with Malt 11.35 Special Assignment
12.00 Midday Edition 12.15 The
Big Byte 1.05 Baker and Kelly Up
Front 2.30 Gary Lineker's Sunday
Sport 7.00 News Extra 7.35 The
Acid Test 8.05 For God's Sake 8.35
Asian Perspective 9.00 Dallyn Worldwide 10.05 Out This Week 10.35
Crime Desk 11.00 Night Extra Crime Desk 11.00 Night Extra 12.05 Nightcall 2.00 Up All Night 5.00-6.00am Morning Reports

Classic FM · (1000-101-9Hz Rin 6.00am Sarah Lucas 9.00 Classic Romance 12.00 Celebrity Choice 1.00 Alan Mann 3.00 Masterclass

4.00 Robert Booth 7.00 Book
Browse 8.00 Evening Concert. Wagner: Overture: Rienzs. Mozart: Concerto
for Flute and Harp, Tohalkowsky: Symphony No 4. Swindow; The Snowstrom Cleanages. storm, Glazunov: Spanish Dance. 10.00 Howard's Week 12.00 Andre Leon 4.00-6.00am Mark Griffiths

Virgin Radio (1215, 1197-1260NHz MW 105,8MHz FM) 6.00am Janey Lee Grace 10.00 Graham Dene 2.00 Nicky Home 6.00 Mitch Johnson 10.00 Garv

World Service (1986): LVIII 1.00am World News 1.10 Press Review 1.15 Sell, Sell, Sell 1.30 Anything Goes 2.00 Newsday 2.30 News 3:15 Sports Roundup 3:30 Jazz for the Asking 4:00 Newsdesk 4:30 Off the Shelf 4:45 Sell, Sell, Sell 5.00 Newsday 5.30 Andy

Satellite

6,00am Hour of Power (12298). 7.00 Urdun (682618). 10.00 Ghoui-Lashed (47500637). 11.45 The Perfect Family (2941182). 12.00 The Hit Mix (10144). 1.00 12:00 The Hit Mix (10144). 1.00 Star Tiek (29892). 2.00 The World at War (83809). 3.00 Star Tiek Voyager (26231). 4.00 WWF (45366). 5.00 Around the World (9811). 5.30 Migray Morphin Pow-er Rangers (5724). 6.00 The Simpsons (2690). 7.00 Repetit Life (9210).

sons (2637), 6.30 The Simpsons (3989), 7.00 Beverly Hills 90210 (80927), 8.00 Star Tiek: Voyager (66347), 9.00 Highlander (79811), 10.00 Renegade (89298), 11.00 Selnfeld (46095), 11.30 Duckman (95434), 12.00 60 Minutes (99309), 1.00 She-Worl of London (67390), 2.00-6.00em Hit Mix Long Play (1067729).

SXY MOVIES Sar works 6.00am Brigadoon (1954) (87250). 8.00 Madame X (1937) (81231). 10.00 To Dance with the White Dog (1993) (35453). 12.00 Send Me No Flowers (1964) (33322). 2.00 Story Book (1994) (23453). 3.20 Ottory Book (1994) (33453). 3.30 Other Women's Chil-dren (1993) (53250). 5.00 Hostage for a Day (1993) (85347). 6.30 Gypsy (1993) (566811). 9.00 Murder One (71279). 10.00 Brainscan (1994) (826989). 11.35 The Movie Show (352453). 12.05 Lies of the Heart (1993) (249835). 1,40 El Martachi (1993) (3589922). 3.00 Getting Gotti (1994) (50767). 4,30-6,00am

Other Women's Children (43564). MOVIE CHANNEL 6.00am Keep Your Seets Please (1936) (85892). 8.00 The Old Curiosity Shop (1984) (89873), 10.00 The Blue Bird (1940) (33095). 12.00 Who Done It? (1942) (33304). 2.00 Betore Winter Comes (1969) (61892). 4.00 The Magic Bubble (1992) (1892). 6.00 The Concience (1993) (58328). 8.00 Clear and Present Danger (1994) (20055076), 10.25 Kalifornia (1993) (751076), 12.25 Live Wire (1992) (5993187), 1.55 UFO: The Movie (1993) (1628477), 3.20

5,00-6,00am Haunters of the Deep SKY WOMES GOLD 12.00pm Call Me Madam (1953) (257163), 1.55 Sign of the Cross (1932) (60542724), 4.00 Modesty Blaise (1966) (5892), 5.00 The Conqueror (1955) (22328), 8.00 Paths of Glory (1957) (37873). 10.00 Poltergrist II (1986)

Uninhibited (1991) (210835).

(726415), 11.40 The French Connection (1971) (512569). 1.25-3.05am The Pocky Honor Picture Show (1975) (220757).

Comes In (5734989), 10.00 Blake's Seven (4757368), 11.00 The Vortex Short (90100298). Bill (92763502), 5.20 To the Manor Born (3099328), 6.00 The Two Ronnies (2557908), 7,00 Morecambe and Wise (9821796) 8.00 Poldark (81695163). 9.05 Elizabeth R (97256237), 11,00 The Bob Monkhouse Show (3509182). 12.05 A Very Peculiar Practice (25355854), 1.10 Reilly

Ace of Spies (2322293), 2.05-7.00am Shopping (4565816).

SKY SPORTS 2 7.00am Sopper Extra (5087873). 11.00 Roller Hockey (1711415). 12.00 Golf USA (8561328), 2.00 World Wide Rugby (3250811). 4.00 US PGA Senior Golf (4126540), 6.00 Robet TV (7399863), 6.30 Powerboat World (3604355), 7.00 American Senior Senio (3694255), 7.00 American Sports Cavalcade (3239328), 8:00 Golf USA - Live (9659521). 11.00 Rebel TV (4102231). 11.30 Power

9.00am AM Live 10.00 The

Fashion Show 11.00 Video Box

7.00 Showbiz Live 8.00 A Week

in Review 9.00 The Fashlon Show 9.30 Video Box 10.00 Stand-Up

Live 11.00 The Sex Show 12.00

Stand-Up Live 12.30 The Sea. Show 1.00-6.00am Night Hours

1.00 A Week in Review 2.00 Sport Live 5.00 Best of Buzzin

7.00am Give Us a Clue (9602219). 7.30 Gong for Gold (7187724). 7.35 The Pink Parither (9565/63). 8.05 The Flame Trees of Thika (4219958). 9.00 When the Boat 11.05 Dr Who and the City of Death (49498250). 1.00 Perty Mason: The Case of the Lady in first Lake (58835057). 2.50 Paul Daniels' Quick Trick (6811873). 3.00 The

7.00am World of Speed and Beauty (50873), 7.30 Basketball All Star Game (27076), 9.30 Rug-by Union Update (18231), 11.30 by Union Update (18231), 11.30 Goals on Sunday (91340), 1.00 Big Time Boving Special (23231), 3.00 Super Sunday – Live: Men-chester Utd v Spurs (8458892), 6.30 be Hockey – Live (184231), 9.00 Big Time Boxing Special (98960), 11.00-2.00am Football Special Westward Coats (666796)

Special Weekend Goals (566796).

1.00am Roller Hockey (8579038). LIVE TY

Pastimes

Chess William Hartston

Luke McShane, England's 43.Rxf7+ Kh6 44.Rh7, or 12-year-old super-prodigy, notched up his second grandmaster scalp last weekend. Playing for Richmond in the 4 Nations Chess League, he beat Jonathan Levitt with a surprise mating finish in an endgame. Although the end came through a blunder by Levitt, McShane played the whole game with great maturity. When 12-year-olds beat grandmasters, you expect short tactical accidents, not an early queen exchange and delicate manoeuvring. Black had the advantage

was fatal. He is mated after 20 Rd1 Bc6 41 Rab7 Rb8 42...Kf8 43.Rxf7. or 42...Kg7 21 Nd4 Bd5 42 Nf6+ 1-0

1 e4 e6 22 Bxd5 Nxd5 2 d4 d5 23 Bc1 Qc4 3 Nd2 c5 24 Qxc4 Rxc4 4 exd5 Qxd525 Rfe1 Rec8 5 Ngf3 cxd4 26 Kg1 g6 6 Bc4 Qd6 27 g3 Bf8 7 0-0 Nf6 28 a3 h5

8 Nb3 Nc6 29 b4 Bg7

42...Kh8 43.Rxb6 Rxb6

44.Rxf7 followed by Rh7.

Black: Jonathan Levitt

White: Luke McSha

9 Nbd4 Nd4 30 Nb3 b6 10 Nxd4 a6 31 Nd2 R4c6 11 Bb3 Qc7 32 Ne4 b5 12 Qf3 Bd6 33 Be3 a5 13 h3 Bh2+ 34 Bd4 Bxd4 after 24...Rxc4, but lost 14 Khl Be5 35 Rxd4 b4 his way after executing the 15 c3 0-0 36 axb4 axb4 correct plan of b5, a5 and 16 Be3 Re8 37 cxb4 Rb6 b4. 38...Rcb8 would have 17 Rael Bd7 38 Ral Nxb4 been better than 18 Qe2 Rac8 39 Rd7 Rf8 38...Nxb4, and 41...Rb8?? 19 Nf3 Bd6 40 Raa7 Nc6

Perplexity

Misquotation:

Sure to frown in the wet conditions The above phase is an ana-

gram of - and a clue to - a well-known quotation. The number of letters in each word of the answer are 3, 2, 3, 6, 2, 3, 10. A prize of the Larousse Desk Reservence Encyclopedia will be awarded to the sender of the first correct answer

opened on 4 April. Entries

to: Saturday Pastimes, the

Independent. 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E145DL.

9 March answers: Champagne (riCHest AMong sPArklinG wiNEs); Parties (PoliticAl oR oTher ellquES); feast (FinE gASTronomy).

Winner: Mrs H Spencer.

Bridge Alan Hiron

N-S game; dealer West North **₹109832**

496532 East **♦**J864 **•**32 ∇A Q OK 1087 0J4 **♣**QJ10 **♣**874 South

◆AKQ1075

◊AQ632 **₽**AK This was a rather good problem from the excellent magazine English Bridge, dis-

♡none

Originally, of course, you were not given the East-West hands but, even seeing the full deal, the winning play (although logical) is not obvious. West opened 1NT (12-14

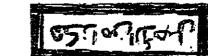
points). East bid 2 and

South closed the auction with ♥KJ7654 a firm 4. West led the •Q and you were invited to plan the play. The danger lies in losing a trump trick and three diamonds. The opening lead, however, is significant for

partner's suit. This, almost certainly, places East with a top heart (probably the king). In that case it is West who is tributed free to all members strong favourite to hold the of the English Bridge Union. missing OK.

After winning the lead. therefore, you have all the necessary clues. The winning line is to lead OQ at trick twol Clearly West takes his king but cannot lead trumps without losing his trick in the suit.

Suppose West tries a second club. Declarer wins, cashes VA. and ruffs a diamond with dummy's solitary trump. Now, after coming to hand with a heart ruff, South cashes his top trumps and West has chosen not to lead his simply concedes a diamond to collect his 10 tricks. You can see the point; it was vital to keep East out of the lead, for then a trump return would have put an end to declarer's chances.



The big picture She's Gotta Have It Sun 11.40pm C4

Before the era of bombastic blockbusters like Malcolm X, Spike Lee's joints started with the clever, small-scale drama, She's Gotta Have It, shot predominantly in black-and-white on a micro-budget in just 12 days. In this sassy, good-looking debut feature, the director plays one of three men (Tommy Redmond Hicks and John Canada Terrell are the other two) enjoying a simultaneous relationship with the broad-minded Tracy Camilla Johns. To save on costs further, Lee had his father, Bill, pen a catchy jazz score and also gave him a cameo role.

Television preview

RECOMMENDED VIEWING THIS WEEKEND by Gerard Gilbert



Bookmark Sat 8.05pm BBC2 Hamish Macbeth Sun 7.15pm BBC1 Encounters: Mad Dogs and Englishwomen Sun 8pm C4 Coronation Street - the Cruise Sun 8pm ITV Heart of the Matter Sun 10.55pm BBC1

atellite viewers who forked out the extra £9.95 to watch Mike Tyson annihilate Frank Bruno in 410 Useconds obviously got a bad a deal as things turned out, but not that much worse than those who coughed up £13.99 (the price at Blockhuster Video this week) for a Coronation Street video of Raquel and Curly's honeymoon.

The cover of this special 76-minute escapade clearly states "only available on video" - and, in the presumed belief that this was their only chance to share in Raquel and Curly's joy. something in the region of 750,000 Corrie fans have dug deep for the video. I'm not sure how they'll be feeling this weekend when ITV screens – yes – a special 60-minute episode, Coronation Street - the Cruise (Sun ITV) about Curly and Raquel's honeymoon. Their £13.99 has bought them 16 minutes of exclusive Coronation Street. Not as bad as Tyson/Bruno – but not good.

The idea of screening this one-off seems to be to

test the water for a fourth weekly Coronation Street episode, in an attempt to end BBC1's traditional dominance of early Sunday evening viewing. This times-

lot was recently shored up for the Beeb by Bal. Dorset coast, where he regularly banged out 16,000 lykissangel and the returning Hamish Macbeth (Sun words a day - never editing one of them. BBC1), the Highland copper with the Scottie dog and On the subject of sub-cultures, Heart of the the constantly clenching jaw muscles, played by wee Matter (Sun BBC1) has a film about Estasy (ab)use, the constantly clenching jaw muscles, played by wee Matter (Sun BBC1) has a film about Estasy (ab)use, Robert Carlyle. And Carlyle is a magnificent presence - our own pocket De Niro. In Sunday's episode, there's hanky panky among a sect of religious fun-damentalists, bacchanalian Buddhists with a taste for whacky baccy, and the conclusion (temporary, one feels) of last year's romantic cliffhanger.

If – and stranger things have happened – anyone was to make a film out of the 1970s pulp fiction of the late. Richard Allen, pseudonymous author of such football terrace classics as Skinhead, Suedehead and Bower Girls, and the subject of this week's Bookmark (Sat BBC2), then Robert Cartyle would surely be near the front of the casting director's thoughts. Some ageing "skins" in Ian MacMillan's film (touchingly still kitted out in bovver gear late into their thirties) are convinced. that the author of such authentic fiction must have been one of them. In fact, he was a fiftysomething Irish-You'll never look canadian called Jim Molfat, living blamelessly on the same way again.

On the subject of sub-cultures, Heart of the and we hear from a whole succession of youngsters with pixilated eyes rolling around their heads like so many joint-winners at the 3.30pm at Doncaster. Is Ecstasy the new religion for the 1990s? Hold on, didn't we go through all this with dope in the late 1960s? Good old Joan Bakewell ::

Still, rather synchronised t'ai-chi in a sweaty barn than a dose of rabies. The disease is a rather distant concept this side of Le Shuttle, but worldwide it yearly kills 100,000 people. Encounters: Mad Dogs and Englishwomen (Sun C4) follows the efforts of a British ver to prevent a rabies epidemic from sweeping Tanzania's Serengeti Wildlife Park. It looks a horrible way to die (be warned, there's footage of a boy in the throes), with victims contorting their bodies in violent spasms as they try to bite those around them. You'll never look at your pet labrador in quite the



The big match Leeds United v Aston Villa 4.30pm ITV Sun

Leeds United and Aston Villa, who contest an even looking Coca Cola Out Final, have both drawn heavily from the saids of the foreign legion this season. Leeds have profited from the Ghanian Tony Vebook and, to a lesser extent, Sweden's Trages Brotin-up front, while the Sero Savo Milosevic up front, while the Sero Salo hausell, and Dwight Yorke from Trindad have, become a formidable striking permets applying to Villa. Will one of these players to the belance today, or will the match be won by players from closer to home like Leads's captain, Gary McAllister (above), or Villa's dreadnought delender, Paul McGrath?

Saturday television and radio

BBC₁

7.25 News; Weather (*5210255*). **7.30 Children's BBC:** Iznogoud, **7.45** The Artbox Bunch, 8.00 Iznogaud, 8.10 The Flintstones, 8.35

The Addams Family.

9.00 Live and Kicking. Music from PJ & Duncan and Shed Seven (69915656). 12.12 Weather (2907255). 12.00 Grandstand. 12.20 Football Focus. 12.55 Racing from Newbury: 1.00 Brown Chamberlin Handicap Steeplechase, 1.10 News, 1.15 Skating: the free

dance competition in the World Championships at Edmonton. 1.25 Racing from Newbury: 1.30 Lamboum Handicap Hurdle. 1.40 Swimming: the Optrex Olympic Trials from Ponds Forge, Sheffield. 1.55 Racing from Newbury: the 2.00 Hoechst Panacur EBF Mares' NH Novices Hurdle, 2.10 Rugby League: Live coverage of the Challenge Cup semi-final, Leeds v Bradford. Kick-off is at 2.15. 2.55 Swimming. 3.10 Rugby League: second half coverage of Leeds v Bradford. 3.50 Football Half-Times 4.00 Swimming. 4.40 Final Score. 5.10 Snooker: the draw for the first round of the Embassy World Championship, which begins on 20 April (1413946).

5.30 News; Weather (304052).

5.40 Local News, Weather (224878). 5.45 Big Break (\$) (454385). *

6.15 The New Adventures of Superman. A wealthy couple want to add Superman to their rare collections (S) (466743). * 7.00 Noel's House Party. There's a Gotcha for Susan

George.(S) (159236). 7.50 The National Lottery Live. Lionel Richie gets the

balls rolling (833120). 8.05 Dalziel and Pascoe. The second of Alan Plater's warm and literate adaptations of the Reginald Hill novels, and Prunella Scales should provide enough reason to tune in, as a lecturer at a small university where the principal has been bumped off five years

previously (S) (1465762), 1 9.35 News and Sport; Weather (Followed by National Lottery Update) (757217).

10.00 The Nose at Ten - Best of Comic Relief. Rik Mayall, Rowan Atkinson, Reeves and Mortimer, and French and Saunders from 1991 (S) (91120). 10.30 Match of the Day. Arsenal v Newcastle (S) (6902255).

11.35 They Think It's All Over. From last Tuesday. The guests are Sharron Davies and Bob Mills (R) (844410). * 12.05 Boxing: Richie Woodhall vs Salvador Yanaz.

Woodhall makes a third defence of his European middleweight title (4125618). 12.55 Money Mania (Richard Fleischer 1987 US). Moronic chase movie in which four treasure

hunters try to find the million dollars mentioned by a dying man (5563521). REGIONS. NI: 4.55pm Northern Ireland Results. 5.40

2.25 Weather (6194618), To 2.30am.

BBC2

6.00 Open University: Education: Making Readers for Life (946-4236). 6.25 Maths (94-437-43). 6.50 Organic Chemistry (6651101). 7.15 A New Role for Men (5419255).7.40 Volcanic Iceland (4017255).8.05 What Is Music? (5275507). 8.30 Crossing the Border (6888323).8.55 Child's Play (6867830). 9.20 Education and Society (2030897). 9.45 The Chemistry of Life and Death (4203168). 10.10 Seeing Through Maths (1302878). 10.35 Statistics (9819255). 11.00 Global Firms in the Industrialising East (8498965), 11.25 An English Accent (6867588), 11.50 Modelling in the Motor Industry (8425781), *

12.15 Mud Glorious Mud. The varied wildlife that is found in estuaries (R) (5328439).

12.40 Etsi Gaslight (George Cukor 1944 US). Entertaining adaptation of Patrick Hamilton's pseudo-Victorian thriller with newly-wed Ingrid Bergman being driven mad by husband Charles Boyer. Bergamn won an Oscar and the fine cast also includes Joseph Cotten, Dame May Whitty and a teenage Angela Lansbury (55147859). 2.30 [183] Love Is a Ball (David Swift 1963 US).

Charles Boyer again, this time stranded in a trashy flashy romantic comedy set in the French Riviera. where he has been hired to groom a panniless duke into a husband for an American heiress (21590304).

4.20 Best of Esther. Unusual wedding experiences (R) (S) (4888439). 4.50 The Oprah Winfrey Show (5792755). *

5.30 TOTP2 (S) (798694). 6.15 World Figure Skating Championships. The free dance from Alberta (S) (9307-43).

7.05 News and Sport; Weather (167439). * 7.20 Correspondent. It's Dealing with Drugs week on the BBC and Edward Stourton visits Poland, apparently the new gateway for drug smuggling into western Europe, and Julie Flint goes to Somaliland to report on addiction to the powerful

stimulant contained in Qat leaves (S) (244878). * 8.05 Bookmark Profile of cult author Richard Allen. See Preview (Followed by Video Nation Shorts) (S) 9.00 Court TV. More real-life American court cases. This

week, the case of 12-year-old Gregory Kingsley, who went to the courts in order to "divorce" his biological mother, who was claiming her rights to him over his favoured foster parents (S) (273174) 9.50 Anatomy of a Murder (Otto Preminger 1959

US). Superb courtroom drama, considered risque on release, with a great performance from James Stewart as the lawyer defending a soldier (Ben Gazzara) accused of murdering a bartender who had raped his wife (Followed by Weatherview) (88896385) *

12.30 Later with Jools Holland. With Sheryl Crow, P J Harvey, Tindersticks, D-Influence and technodance auteur Moby (R) (S) (9643250). To

ITV/London

6.00 GMTV 6.00 News; Weather, 6.10 Eat Your Words. 6.40 Barney and Friends, 7.45 Saturday Disney. Steve Coogan, Terry Jones and Eric Idle are in to olug their movie of The Wind in the Willows. 8.55

Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (4259976).

9.25 Teleganticmegavision. Gaby Roslin, SFX veteran Ray Harryhausen and Grand Prix commentator Jonathan Palmer are guests (2735236). 10.25 Spatz (R) (4381236).

10.55 It's Not Just Saturday (S) (4689014). 11.30 The Chart Show (R) (S) (76439). 12.30 Whizz Kids. Ultimate Kaos (13830).

1.00 News, Weather (54957168). * 1.05 Local News, Weather (54956439). *

1.10 Movies, Games and Videos (9172007). 1.45 Bugs Bunny (933217). 2.15 Carry on Nurse (Gerald Thomas 1959 UK). The second in the series and bullying matron Hattie

Jacques is about to get a taste of her own medicine 3.45 Airwolf (R) (906323).

4.45 News; Sport; Weather (4235656). * 5.05 Local News, Sport (1401101). 5.25 Bathana (1421965).

5.45 Catchphrase (S) (472781). *
6.15 The Shane Richie Experience. Louise provides the musical relief as three more couples bash it out to get married in a TV studio (S) (967897).

7.05 Barrymore. His kind of people (Including Lottery Result) (880694), * 8.05 Stars in Their Eyes. People pretend to be Fats Domino, Jon Bon Jovi and, yes, Chas and Dave (S)

(822491).

8.50 News; National Lottery Update; Weather (601878). *

9.05 The Governor, Return of the Lynda La Plantescripted and produced drama starring Janet McTeer as the somewhat implausible prison governor. Our heroine has been in the States training as a hostage release negotiator. Guess what happens next (S) (933052). *

10.05 Text Down and Out in Beverly Hills (Paul

Mazursky 1986 US). Peppy updating of Renoir's 1931 Boudu Saved from Drowning to 1980s Beverley Hills, where new-rich millionaire Richard Dreyfus saves tramp Nick Nolte from killing himself and introduces him into his household. Bette

Midler place his wife (3) (578743) 12.00 Pyjama Party. Katie Puckrick and the girlies' guests are Jacqueline Pirie and Lisa Riley from

Emmerdale (\$) (2092811). 1.25 Funny Business (S) (6076434). 1.55 Tropical Heat (R) (S) (2638892).

2.50 God's Gift. Dating game (2309989). 3.45 E! News Week in Review. Entertainment gossip

4.40 ITV Sport Classics I! (11257873). 5.05 Coach (4856960).

5.30 News (75231). To 6.00am.

Channel 4

6.05 Sesame Street (R) (8132217). 7.05 Ulysses 31 (R) (5480743).

7.30 Super Mario Brothers (8052101). 7.45 First Edition (R) (8057656).

8.00 Trans World Sport (23588). 9.00 The Morning Line. Preview of today's top racing. (S) (32633).a

10.00 The Greatest. The cases for Jackie Stewart and Linford Christie (R) (S) (86385). * 10.30 NBA. Basketbali (R) (29679).

11.00 Gazetta Football Italia (22675). 12,00 The Late Late Show (S) (83101).

12.30 The Great Maratha (7764168).

12.55 STEEN Night Train to Munich (Carol Reed 1940 UK). Launder and Gilliat more or less recycled their script for Hitchcock's The Lady Vanishes for this entertaining propaganda thritler about a Czech scientist and his daughter being ushered out of Nazi Germany by undercover spy Rex Harrison (41930566).

2.40 Channel 4 Racing from Doncaster The 3.00 Global Shopfitters Stakes, 3.40 William Hill Lincoln Handlcap, 4.15 Midland Copying Doncaster Shield Stakes, and 4.45 Cammidge

Trophy (6f) (61962014). 5.05 Brookside Omnibus (S) (4714526). *

6.30 Right to Reply (S) (149). * 7.00 A Week in Politics (S) (8762).

8.00 Hidden Kingdoms. The common loon (also known to its friends as the great northern diver) followed through the course of one year in North America, as they face threats from pollution, tourism, fishing, raccoons and turtles (S) (7410).

than a handful for Barry (4946). * 10.00 The World of Lee Evans. Samantha Beckinsale guests as the girl-next-door-whose has stolen the ug-eared one's affections (R) (S) (325830).

10.35 The Blue Light Zone: Tribal Cops. The Native American Police who patrol the vast Laguna, Navajo and Acoama reservations of New Mexico-(S) (944149). *

11.10 NYPD Blue. An episode from the second series. with Detective Andy Sipowicz tracking down the killer of an abused wife (R) (S) (735588). *

12.05 Fixed Prince of the City (Sidney Lumet 1981 US). Over three hours is a long time to be stuck in the an gloom of Lumet's hyper-realistic New York police department, where Treat Williams' narcotics cop has agreed to be wired up and so inform on his performance by Williams, who is acted off the screen by the economical Jerry Orbach (50034144).

3,10 White Homeland Commando. Drama looking at the rise of a right wing white supremacist group. Stars William Dafoe.(R) (S) (7112724). 4.20 The Girlie Show. Last night's show (R) (S) (6235095). To 5.10am.

ITV/Regions

(13830), 1:10 Films Herbie Rotes Again (98177762). 2.55 seeQuest DSV (1990385), 3.50 RoboCop (8715697), 5:20 Batmen (1049656), 12:00 Live from 167 15657). 3.20 Battist (1019556).
 187 15657).
 12.55am Pylama Path (5565989).
 12.55am Runny Business. (2874502).
 250am Firm Das Boot (24910255).
 5005.30am Warted Dasid or Alive (59908).

THE HES/MINISTRE As London except: 12.30 pm Movies, Games and Videos (13830): 1.10 Suntmexters (5839694): 1.50 Film: The Amazing Captain Nemo (77340323): 5.10 Tyne: Full Time (3462236): 5.20 Barran (10-19656). 12.00 Film: Sparie: The Price of Passion (200347). 140am Furny Business (4857/82). 2.10am Pylama Party (2851.453), 3.35am Wer of the Worlds (898.4076), 4.25am Our the Music (6227076), 5.20-5.30am Profile (8807873).

CRIRIN.
As London except. 12.30pm Heartand (13830). 1.40
The Munsters Yorky (42129236). 2.05 Warner Brothes Carbon (30607472). 2.30 Robotop (1915694). 3.20
Ahwof (6572255). 4.15 The Midas Touch (484526).
5.10 Central Match - Goals Erins (3452236). 5.20 Bathman (1049656). 4.35am Joblinder (5537415). 5.205.20cm Arton Eric (8977277). 5.30am Asian Eye (8307873).

As London except: 12.30 jmm The Munsters Today (1.3830). 1.10 West: House: (9.172007). Wates: Roadrumer (1.3357156). 1.40 Wates: A World of Wonder (42129236). 1.45 West: A World of Wonder (42129507). 2.05 Wels: Certon Time (203/68/8). 2.10 West. Carton Time (44823694). 2.15 Movies, Games and Videos (959526). 2.45 Robotop (917439). 5.20 Batman (1049656). 12.00 Live from the Lilydrome (4617057). 12.55am Pýjarra Parly (5565989). 2.25am Furny Business (2874502). 2.50am Pilm: Das Boot (24970255). 5.00-5.30am Wanted Dead or Alive (59908).

As London except: 12:30pm Movies, Garnes and Videos (13930): 1.10 A World of Wonder (13357156): 1.40 Cartoon (52863471): 1.55 Father Dowling Mysteries (9860217): 2.55 Awsof (1990385): 3.50 RobyCop (8715697): 5.20 Betman (1049656): 12:00 Live from the Lilychome (4617057), 12.55am Pyjama Party (5565989), 2.25am Furny Business (2874502), 2.50am Fire Das Book(24910255), 5.00-5.30am Free

As London except: 12.30pm Movies, Games and Videos. (13830). 1.10 Film: Kavik the Wolf Dog (98177762). 2.55 Kright Rider (1990385), 3.50 Airwolf (8715697). iman (1049656). 12.00 Live from the Lilydrome (4617057). 12.55am Pyjerra Party (5563989). 2.25am Furny Business (2874502). 2.50am Film: Das Boot (24910255). 5,005.30am Wanted Deed or Altre (59908).

As C4 except: 11.00am The Avengers (22675) 12.30pm Board Suppl (7764168) 5.30 Hollycaks (149) 7.00 Navis (153236). 7.15 Helen, Yn Y Gweed (428120). 8.15 Hel Straeon (755526): 8.45 Yng Ngh-wnnii Carl (754897). 9.15 The Long Johns (687859). 9.30 The World Class Resis (195526). 10.05-10.35pm. Undercoer Britain (902830).

Radio

Radio 1

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P 502 (Mg 제) 7.00am Claire Sturgess 10.00 Fevin Greening 12.30 Danny Baker 2.30 Jo Whitey 5.00 John Peel 7.00 Lovegroove Dance Par May, LTJ Bullem 2.00 Annie Nightingale's Chill Out Zone 4.00-7.00am Lynn Parsons Radio 2

6.00am Mo Dutta 8.05 Bhan Matthaw 10.00 Judi Spiers 12.00 Hayes on Saturda / 1.30 The Queen of Pomance 2.00 Martin Reiner on Saturday 4.00 Nrck Barraclough 5.00 Janus Ian in Concert 6.00 Paul Heiney with Lifestyle 7.00 Legends of Light Music 7.30 Pussian Ballet Classics 9.30 David Jacobs 10.00 Spendan Moriey 12.05 Charles Nove 4.00-7.00am Mo Dutta Radio 3

ET 2-92 AREA PA

7.00am Pecord Review, Includes Wagner: Prelude: Lohengrin. Schubert: Porido in A. Gade. Symphony No 1 in C minor 9.00 Building a Library, Bryce Morrison compares recordings of Decussy's plano preludes.

10.15 Record Release. Howells

Paradise Pondel Earl Elegiac Thio, Parry: Fiano Concerts in F sharp. 11.15 Persaues, Barnard keeffe in vestigates the Royal Classics

12.00 Private Passions, Michael Berkeley talks to the conductor Sir Colin Davis about his musical la numes. 1.00 News: Cold War- Hot Serence. Georgina Ferry meets.

scientific pioneers working in Britain in the Fifties who set lution in biotechnology, (4/4), 1.20 Antage Years, Richard Wigmore explores the life of coun-tertenor Alfred Deiler, Includes contributions from his son Mark. With extracts from Purcell's King Arthur and The Fairy Gueen, Handel's Oriando, Socarme and Theodo ra, and Britter's Midsummer

Hight's Bream, (3.5). Featuring a performance by ac-cordionist Joseph Petric. (3:3). 4.00 The SBC Grobestras. SBC National, Orchestra of Wales, Jean Yves Occarde, Dohnarys Symptony No 1 in D minor,

O'Donnell presents the view from Utopia and Other Destinations people about their idea of

5.00 Jazz Record Requests. 5.45 Music Matters, Ivan Hewett talks to Richard Rodney Ben-nett and discusses the state of music coverage in the press with Andrew Porter, Richard Morrison and Frank Johnson. 6.30 Live from the Met. Bizet's Carmen, Cast includes Denvce Graves, mezzo (Carmen). A shard Margison, tenor (Don A chard Margson, tenor (Don Jose). Chorus and Orchestra of the Metropolitan Opera, New York John Fione Act 1, (7,30-7,50 James Levine, The Metropolitan Opera artistic director talks to Terence McNally). Act 2, (5,35-8,50 The Met Opera Gueza Act 3, (9,35-10,00 Interval.) Act 4
0,30 Blue Skess

10.30 Blue Skies. 11.00-1.00am Creative Jazz Or chestra. A 1995 concert by this 15-piece orthestra, con-ducted by composer Mike Gubbs, During the interval, Alyn Shipton talks to Mike Gibbs and Mark-Anthony Tumage. 5.55-7.00am Open University. Maths: Solving Inequalities. 6.15 Developing World. 6.35 Class in Britain Today.

Radio 4

197 2.50 600±72 (19840-06) 6.10 Farming Today. 6.50 Prayer for the Day

6.55 Weather 8.58 Weather 9.00 Neus. 9.05 Sport on 4. 10.00 News, Loose Ends.

11.30 Asia File, Julian Petitler areits Subje Bay in the Philicoines. the US navy base turned booming free popt (1/6). See Choice 12.00 Money Styl. 12.55 Weather.

Choice

Julian Pettifer (left) presents the view from the Philippines in Asia File (11.30am R4), a new series looking at life in the East; Michael inside Jeanette Winterson's head in (6.50pm R4), a new series asking

1.10 Any Questions? Jonathen Dimbleby's guests are Dr kim Howells MR Shadow Trade and industry spokesperson: Puth Lea, Head of Policy at the Institute of Directors, author Dr. Rosalind Miles: and Pod Richards MP, Parliamentary Under Secre-tary of State for Wales. 1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 News, Any Answers?
2.30 Saturday Playhousa: Elsie.

Dans, Gert and Dany, Anne Cautheld's account of the lives of Elsie and Dons Waters finds them lanking about in a recording studio as the abullient cockney characters Gert and Daisy, who were to take them away from the East End and into a world the, had only ever dreamed about. With Celia Imrie and Susie Blake. 4.00 News: Working misson. John Stater reveals how the 4-

legal excavation of buried treasure near Dublin has provided frence departs apput events two millenia ago. (2.5). 4,30 Science Now, Peter Evans and guests review the results of Megalab 96

5.00 File on 4. 5.40 Letters from Pound ASout 5.50 Shipping Porteast. 5.55 Weather. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.25 Week Ending 6.50 Utopia and Other Destinations, Michael O'Donne'l taiks

to the novelest Jeunette Winterson about her personal vision și Utapia, 11 6). See Chaice. 7.20 Appendiscope Feature. Pobert Dawson Scott investigates tonality, modality, the soence of sound, and the western concept of major and minor. 7.50 Saturday Night Theatré. Holidays in John Hambon's osychological drama, a woman cottage on the harkshire. moors, where one develop sha

is taping a life-or-death deb-

sion. With Pam Ferris.

9.50 Ten to Ten. 10.CC News.

10.15 An Unfortunate Turn of Events, John Howard tells the story of the decision taken by Coss-Cola to change the recipe of its classic draw, 15/5). 10.30 Going Wrong, A cark, psychological triffer by Ruth Rendell, With Peter Wingfield. 12.00 News.

12.30 The Late Story: The Diary
By Andrea Levy, From the London Baby Fair. 12.48 Salpoing Forecast. 1.00am As World Service.

Radio 5

6.05am Timy Table 6.30 Bran Hayes at Breakfast 9.05 Weekend with Kershaw and Whittaker with Pershaw and Whittaker 11.05 Top Sear 11.35 Crime Cesk 12.00 Middlay Edition 12.15 Sportscall 1.05 Sport on Five 6.06 Simplish 7.35 Straight Up 8.05 The Box 8.35 Delilyin on Saturday 10.05 The Treatment 11.00 Night Edita 12.05 After Hours 2.00 up Att Night 5.00-6.05am Morting Reports Classic FM

6.00am Sarah Lunzo 9.00 Clas-sic Dourndown 12.00 Classic Gardening Forum 1.00 Alan Mang 3.00 The Sarunday Alterna-

tive 6.00 Classic America 7.00

The World Opera Season, Rossinii

Le Comte Cry John Aler, Sumi do. Gres Caphemada, Lyon Opera Crchestraliche Eigt Gardiner 10.00 Cigstic Guiz 12.00 Andre

tean 4.00 0 essic Countdown 5.00-6.00am Michael Fanstone Virgia Radio onii 1.50 Toles in 111 see 9. 6.00am Taney Laa Grada 8.00 Russ & Joha's Greatest Hits 10.00 Richard Skirner **2.00** Mark Forrest 6,00 Mittal Johnson 10,00 Robin Banks 2,60-6.00am ⊬oward Pearce

World Service

1.00am Word News 1.10 Press Feven 1.15 Champions 1.30
From Cur Dwn Contropropert
1.50 Write Ch 2.60 Newsday
2.30 The Ed Stewart Show 3.00 Mond News 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.39 Fourth Estate 3.45 Spience View 3.50 Waveguide 4.00 Newsday 4.30 Short Story 4.45 Not a Turn for the Worse 5.00. evices, 5.30 in Praise of God

Satellite

7.00am Undun (712859). 10.00 Ghoul-Lashed (47533965). 11.45 The Perfect Farmly (297-4410), 12.00 WWF (50385), 1.00 The Hit Mix (69033), 2.00 The Adventures of Brisco County Jurior (30120), 3.00 One West Waikilu (66472), 4.00 Kung The West Wallot 100472. 4.UU Rung Fu, the Legend Continues (85507). 5.00 Mystenous Island (3472). 6.00 WWF (89897). 7.00 Studes (20168). 8.00 Unsolved Mystenes (97548). 9.00 Cops I (74491). 9.30 Cops II (51014). 10.00 Dream On (44236). 10.30 Revelations (20656). 11.00 The Movie Show (86236). 11.30 For-The Mark 16907-5, 12-30 WKRP in Cincinnab (20322). 1-00 Saturday Night Live (41960). 2-00-7-00am Hit Mix Long Play (1090057).

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Blood on the Moon (1948) (2743) 1 8.00 Bundle of Joy (1956) (21472) 10.00 How I Got Into College (1989) (75694) 12.00 Bunch and Sundance: The Early Days (1979) (44323) 2.00 Krull (1983) (47061). 4.00 Oh, Heavenly Dog! (4706)). 4.00 Oh, Heavenly Dogl (1980) (8304). 6.00 The Air Up There (1994). Comedy staming Kevin Boon and Charles Groria Maina (23255). 8.00 Intersection (1994). Drama staming Richard Gere and Sharon Stone (95472). 10.00 Robo-cop 3 (1993). Action thriller staming Polyer Burka and Manuel Med. Robert Burke and Nancy Allen (1993). Erotic cornedy staming Ashle Rhey and Andrea Suzzane (744965). 1.15 Bitter Harvest (1993) (481182) 2.50 Colour of Love (1992) 1435637). 4.25-6.00am How I Got Into Callege (1989) (790328).

MOTE CHANNEL

6.00am Exploits at West Poley (1985) (3628526), 7.05 Gapnelle and the Doodlema (1984) (67/8439), 8.05 Transformers - The Mone (1986) 19/676945), 10.00 Romantic Undertaking (1995) (73236), 12.00 Sister Act 2: Back in the Habit (1993) (42965). 2.00 Sands of the Desart (1960) (47043). 4.00 Remarks Undertaking (1995) (6946), 6.00 Bandit Sandit (1994). Action drama starring Strain Bloom and Brian Krause (21897), 8.00 Sister Act 2: Back in the Habit (1993). Cornedy starring Whoops Goldberg and Maggie Smith (93014). 10.00 So I Married an Aze Murderer (1993), Cornedy starring Mike Styre's and Nancy Travis. (917743). 11.35 House of Secrets (1994). Thriller staming Melissa Gilber and Bruce Bodeliner (882878). 1.10 Fight from Justice (1993) (471705), 2.50 Incident in a Small Town (1993)

(434279), 4.25-6.00am Bandit Ban

SXY MOVIES COLD

4.00pm The Lost Weekend (1945) (6033). 6.00 The Last American Hero (1973) (52977). 8.00 Cocson (1985). Light-hearted, fantasy drama starring Steve Guttenberg and Don Ameche (77014), 10,00 The Eiger Sanction (77014), 10,00 The Liger Sanction (1975). Thriler staring Clint Eastwood and George Kennedy (82251878). 12,15 Nexoda Smith (1966) (92596279), 2,25-4,00am The Mummy's Shroud (1966) (452540). DK GOLD

7.00am Give Us a Clue (5307007).

7.30 Going for Gold (7110052). 7.55 The Sullivans (30779588). 10.00 Bergerac (1478476). 11.00 Classic Sport (4852972), 12.00 Neighbours (19082385), 2.15 East-Enders (18923656), 5.00 Till Death Us Do Part (2776149), 5.35 Fall and Rise of Regnald Perrin (1306491), 6.15 Comrade Dad (6225472), 6.50 6.19 Comrade Dad (62:2472).
 6.50 Comrade Dad (62:2472).
 7.25 The Updrat Connection (2607052).
 7.55 Bread (664)656.
 8.30 Coldit (984)56101.
 9.35 Tenko (6773)588.
 10.40 Danger UXB (8986)5231.
 11.45 Film: Escape to Rymma (657760.1). cape to Burna (6577694). 1.20 Public Eye (2346873). 2.15-7.00am Shopping at Night (1722347). SKY SPORTS

(90014), 7.30 Racing News (19149), 8.00 ice Warners (74859) 9.30 Countdown to the Super League (329-46). 11.00 Schoolboy Football: Northern Ireland v Scotland (28897) 12.00 Sports Saturday (62743).

2.00 Rugby Union, Pilkington Cup
Semi-Final: London Irish v Leicester
(8482472). 5.30 World Sport Special (5491), 6.00 Opposite Lock (34385). 8.00 Boning (39830), 10.00 Bushido (58965), 11.00 Rugby Union Update (10149), 1.00 Boxing (54960). 3.00-4.00am Bushido (17298).

SKY SPORTS 2

7.00am Soccer AM (5010101). 11.00 WWF (17.447-43), 12.00 Golf USA (869-4656), 2.00 Saturday nors (4166168), 6.00 Skiff Salling (3094651), 6.30 Inside the PGA Se nior Tour (9399043), 7.00 Basketbal Alistar Game (1769052), 9.00 Golf USA - Live /3274491). 11.00 1.00am Opposite Lock (2081168).

9.00am AM 10.00 The Fashion Show 11.00 Video Box 1.00 The Week in Review 2.00 Sports 6.00 Best of Buzzin' 8.00 Showba: 9.00 The Fashion Show 9.30 Video Box 10.00 Stand-Up 11.00 The Sex Show 12.00 Stand-Up 12.30 The Sex Show 1.00-9.00am Night Hours



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